

NERI tells Arnold Clavio and Ali Sotto of "Dobol A sa Dobol B" on the alleged P200-M bribe offer: It's really difficult for me to say yes or no. Later, he tells the INQUIRER, I cannot talk about it right

Business, FVR, Enrile, Ermita on Erap verdict

THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WILL BE disappointed if Joseph Estrada is acquitted by the Sandiganbayan of plunder, a securities analyst said yesterday.

But it will also be disappointed if the ousted President is convicted and subsequently pardoned by President Macapagal-Arroyo, said Astro del Castillo, a director of the Association of Securities Analysts of the Philippines.

"It's the right opportunity to create a model to go after grafters," Del Castillo told the INQUIRER.

"Reconciliation will always be there. But we have a long list of pardoned

CA upholds murder raps vs Leviste

By Lella B. Salaverria

FORMER BATANGAS GOV JOSE ANTOnio Leviste will continue to be charged with murder, with the Court of Appeals dismissing his petition questioning the reinvestigation of his case and the upgrading of the initial charge of homi-

In a decision issued on Aug. 30, the appellate court upheld the finding of Senior State Prosecutor Emmanuel

demy P200-M bribe He also says it's DOTC which should answer concerns

By Michael Lim Ubac and Christine O. Avendaño

FORMER SOCIOECONOMIC PLANNING SECRETARY ROmulo Neri yesterday refused to confirm or deny that he was offered a P200-million bribe to support the controversial national broadband network (NBN) project that Chinese telecommunications giant ZTE won.

"I don't know, I cannot talk about it a speculative issue." right now," he told the Inquirer, point-

But Neri said he would talk when ing out that he could not comment "on properly summoned by Congress.

morning on radio dzBB, host Arnold of Neri to support an impeachment Clavio suggested he could have retired and gone on a cruise if he had accepted the alleged P200-million bribe, to which Neri replied: "I can't do that. It will be in my conscience and I believe in bad karma."

In the dzBB interview, Neri also said, when asked on the supposed bribery: "It's really difficult for me to say yes or no. It's difficult to prove either way."

Iloilo Vice Gov. Rolex Suplico said he

Earlier, in an interview yesterday was considering getting the testimony complaint he had threatened to file against Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos over Abalos' supposed role in the deal.

The National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) board, presided over by President Macapagal-Arroyo herself, approved the NBN project, Neri told the INQUIRER.

"The Neda approved the broadband

NERI DOESN'T/ A4



FOR HOME, COUNTRY AND BABY, TOO: Ensign Jeffrey Legaspi of the Philippine Navy plants a farewell kiss on his only child, Genesis Matthew, before departing for Basilan with the other members of the 1st Naval Mobile Construction Battalion and the 355th Aviation

Engineering Wing of the Philippine Air Force to carry out the humanitarian offensive ordered by President

KEN ZAMOKA

Lomibao named to Berroya's job at LTO

By Michael Lim Ubac

ON THE EVE OF HER DEPARture for an Asia-Pacific summit in Sydney, President Macapagal-Arroyo has effected another round of changes in her official family.

She broadened the powers of Solicitor General Agnes Devanadera at the Department of Justice by naming her acting secretary, and kicked upstairs Land Transportation Office chief Reynaldo Berroya by designating him assistant secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communications, according to a Maiacañang announcement.

Berroya was replaced at the LTO by another key ally of the Arroyo administration, retired Philippine National Police chief

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AKAIBANG

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'Chemical Ali' sentenced to death by hanging

WORLD / A20

Germany, Denmark foil attacks on Frankfurt airport, US hub

SPORTS / A24 Nadal crashes out of US Open in huge upset

GMA set to have 20-minute meeting with Bush tomorrow

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

SYDNEY-PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo will have a 20-minute meeting with US President George W. Bush tomorrow on the sidelines of the Apec summit this weekend that is expected to set directions for climate change, human security and trade.

Ms Arroyo is expected to arrive here CAUPHOLDS/As at 9 p.m. today to join the 20 other

leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

The Bush-Arroyo meeting will take place at the Intercontinental Sydney Hotel right after a lunch hosted by the US president for seven attending leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Ms Arroyo is this year's chair of the Asean.

Shortly before the Bush-Arroyo

PEOPLE OWER YAN!

Protesters Down Under to show Bush bottom line

SYDNEY-A GAME GROUP OF AUStralian antiwar activists is planning a cheeky protest against a visit by US President George W. Bush-baring bottoms in what is hoped will be a world-record moon.

Organizer Will Saunders said the protest tomorrow was almed at lightening the mood in Sydney, a city currently patrolled by 5,000 police and soldiers and divided by a massive steel and concrete fence ahead of the Asia-Pacific Eco-



PROTEST AND PROMO are Joined at the anti-frag war picket line in Sydney now patrolled by 5,000 troops to secure the Apac heads of state led by US President Bush.

Joma not covered by amnesty, says Esperon

By Cynthia D. Balana

Jose Ma. Sison may not be covered by an amnesty proclamation for communist rebels which Malacañang will issue soon, according to Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen.

Hermogenes Esperon.

interviewed by the INQUIRER during SELF-EXILED COMMUNIST LEADER the celebration of the 50th National Day of Malaysia on Tuesday night, Esperon said he doubted if Sison himself would avail of the amnesty proclama-

Esperon pointed out that Sison was

being tried in The Netherlands for ordering the assassination in the Philippines of his former comrades, a crime under Dutch law.

"I think he will not be covered, It's The Netherlands that is charging him with felonious acts. He may not be cov-

JOMA NOT/A9

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isotated rainshowers of

Helia/Deceled Cebs Recloban Partly Cloudy **Partly Cloudy** Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Eagayan de Gro Parily Cloudy Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy

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Strong peso shuts down 75 firms

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PESO'S SHARP RISE AGAINST THE UNITED States dollar has led to the shutdown of 75 mostly small-and-medium export enterprises, resulting in P1.5 billion in foreign exchange losses in the first half of the year, industry leaders claimed yesterday.

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of the Philippine Exporters' Confederation, appealed to the try which is urging that the peso Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to reconsider its foreign exchange policy and slow down the peso's appreciation to prevent the export sector from losing its global competitiveness.

He said the estimated losses and company closures in the first semester were reported by

Sergio Ortiz-Luis Jr., president leaders of the food, handicrafts, furnitures and garments indusbe made to remain within a range of 48-50 to the US dollar "within a fixed period of time resembling export trading cycles."

"We cannot survive with the presently strong peso, especially one that rapidly appreciates or one that widely fluctuates." Ortiz-Luis said.

strong-economy argument is only a myth...We only have to look at the export figures to know that while total export revenues are increasing, the fact is 80 percent of our exports are labor-intensive and has thus fallen victim to the appreciating peso," he said.

The peso closed at 46.64:\$1 yesterday, representing a gain of nearly 5 percent since the start of the year.

Exporters from the electronics and garments industry, the country's top two export performers, have not been spared losses as well, although they import the bulk of their raw materials, Ortiz-Luis said.

He attacked the policy of defending the peso as "jurassic,"

strong-peso-equals-a- arguing that China has adamantly ignored global criticism and deliberately kept the yuan undervalued to be able to make its exports more attractive to overseas buyers.

We appreciate the wisdom of allowing market forces to determine the appropriate exchange rate levels. In our current experience, however, the fluctuations have been so wide and the signals by government influence a lot of speculation such that portfolio managers and dollar traders already dictate the levels that work to their advantage," he said.

He said policy measures, short of direct intervention, are needed. to prevent the speculators from taking advantage of the situation "at the expense of the bigger le-

gitimate economic contributors."

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. stressed, however, that the central bank was not biased for a strong peso.

mined peso ... Prior to this, there was continued depreciation, so how would you characterize that, a weak peso policy?" he said. "As we have done time and

try and smoothen the movements," he said. He said the proposal to mainrain an exchange rate band favor-

again, what the BSP does is to

ing the exporters was too "risky:" The primary observation is that it will tend to produce distortions in the system..and who

will shoulder the cost?" he said. Terangeo said the central bank

would stick to its mandate of providing monetary and price stability, as a low-inflation rate regime would also benefit exporters.

"We're also doing more in "Our policy is a market-deter- terms of liberalizing the foreign exchange system," he said.

Ortiz-Luis urged the government to undertake the following: revive a dollar-denominated bourse that will be practical and attractive to investors; settle more foreign debts ahead of maturity to create demand for dollars; liberalize gold bullion trading and create a gold bullion certificate market to stabilize the exchange rate; and the Magna Carta for SMEs and the Agri-Agra Laws which mandate lending to these priority sectors, by tightening the rules on alternative compliance.

Gasoline, kerosene prices cut by 50¢

By Abigail L. Ho

OIL FIRMS HAVE REDUCED gasoline and kerosene prices by 50 centavos a liter.

Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Chevron Philippines Inc., Seaoil Philippines Inc. and Eastern Petroleum Corp. all adjusted their prices at 7 p.m. yesterday.

Flying V implemented the same price adjustments on the same products at 12:01 a.m. today.

Seaoll president Glenn Yu gasoline and kerosene in the P40.30 a liter.

world market, as the United States summer driving season comes to an end.

The regional benchmark Dubai crude fell to an August average of \$67.38 a barrel from \$69.49 a barrel in July.

World oil prices are also expected to go down some more with the change in the course of Hurricane Felix, which apparently bypassed US refineries in the Gulf of Mexico.

Premium unleaded gasoline prices fell to between P39.07 and P41.77 a liter, unsaid the price cut was due to leaded gasoline to between the reduction in the prices of P38.05 and P41.09 a liter, to

Survey indicates people agree on Erap's guilt, says prosecutor

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE STATE PROSECUTOR IN the P4-billion plunder case against detained former President Joseph Estrada yesterday said that if majority of Filipinos favor an amnesty for the ousted president, it only suggests that they agree to his culpability.

Special Prosecutor Dennis Villa-Ignacio was commenting on the latest survey results of the Social Weather Stations that showed 77 percent of Mega Manila residents were willing to forgive the former president.

"But as how we read it, these people are in favor of pardoning

he has a liability." Villa-Ignacio told the INOURER.

Mayor Jose Victor TV Ejercito, however, said the results indicated that the majority believe in his father's innocence.

But the chief magistrate of the antigraft court trying Estrada for plunder yesterday said she was oblivious to the publicity generated by survey results sympathetic to the deposed

Prejudicial publicity

"We are aware there might be prejudicial publicity. This is a

Estrada because they agree that very high-profile case and it's very hard to control the media," Sandiganbayan Presiding Jus-Estrada's son San Juan City tice Teresita Leonardo de Castro

De Castro said she has refrained from reading newspapers and has missed reading about the results of the recent SWS survey.

"I'm sorry to the say that I haven't read those news ac; counts," De Castro said during a budget hearing yesterday.

De Castro chairs the special division handling Estrada's case that includes associate justices Diosdado Peralta and Francisco Villaruz.

The Sandiganbayan is expected to render its decision on the case in the coming days.

Villa-Ignacio noted in jest that the 90-day deadline in rendering a decision as prescribed by the Constitution falls on Sept. 13-"Frap's favorite number."

The number 13 seemed to have figured prominently in Estrada's life. He was the Philippines' 13th president and was impeached by the House of Representatives on Nov. 13, 2001. He was denied to challenge the validity of President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration by the Supreme Court in a 13-0 vote.

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Hon, Jerril G. Santos - Chief of Protocol, Department of Foreign Affairs. He has a solid background in the field of protocol and has the distinction of having served five presidents of the Republic of the Philippines as protocol officer in various capacities, including having been Chief of Presidential Protocol in Malacañang. He is currently an Assistant Secretary at DFA and is among the youngest to have attained ambassadoriallevel rank in the history of the DFA. He has also served on several foreign assignments including having been Minister and Consul General of the Philippine Embassy in Canada.

Assistant Secretary Santos has a bachelor's degree in Foreign Service from UP. He was granted a Fulbright scholarship and went on to obtain a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tuffs University, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

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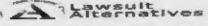
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POWERBOOKS

RP now world's top labor exporter

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE PHILIPPINES IS NOW THE WORLD'S top exporter of labor, according to Labor Secretary Arturo Brion.

Brion made the statement yesterday before the House committee on appropriations to justify his department's proposed P6.2 billion budget for 2008, an P800 million increase over their current P5.4 billion

"We are now the No. 1 labor-sending country simply because Filipinos are very desired everywhere," he told congressmen. "If we are not that productive, we will not be that desired."

Brion was responding to the query of Sorsogon Rep. Salvador Escudero III on whether Filipino workers were productive.

The secretary said the demand for overseas Filipino workers was so high that there were now "more jobs than what we can

He cited the case of Saudi Arabia, which had a demand for 5,000 nurses. He said the Philippines came up short by 2,000.

Over all, he said the country was sending health system hierarchy.

one million Filipino workers overseas every year or a current total of 7.9 million OFWs. Under the budget proposal, the Tech-

nical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda), stood to get the highest increase among all agencies attached to the DOLE.

The suggestion was to increase its current budget of P2.5 billion to P3.1 billion or a difference of P642 million. The secretary assured congressmen that

"our main policy is not marketing, but the protection" of OFWs. Many of these OFWs were nurses seeking greener pastures outside of the Philippine

health system. From 2000 to 2003, the country lost 51,850 nurses to higher paying jobs abroad, according to the Health Alliance for Democracy, a nationwide network of

doctors, nurses and other health professionals. in 2005, the group noted that around

4,000 doctors were enrolled in nursing schools, ostensibly giving up what was considered a higher position in the general

Why the look on GMA's face?

By Christine O. Avendaño

THE PHOTOGRAPHS ON THE FRONT page of the INCURER the other day had President Arroyo displaying expressions that seemed to range from incredulity to shock, as her executive secretary, Eduardo Ermita, held up a compact disc (CD) and murmured a few private words to her at the start of a meeting on national security the other day.

So what was that all about? Another

In a talk with reporters, Ermita shook his head and said it was only an old documentary on power politics in the United States that he was pitching to the President.

Ermits said he was surprised that the series of photographs capturing that short conversation he had with the President at the start of the National Security Council Cabinet Group meeting in Mala-

cafiang last Tuesday was given so much

Ermita recalled to reporters what he told President Arroyo at that time: "Alam ninyo ma'am kung may oras kayo, papahiramin ko sa inyo eto (Ma'am, if you have time, I will lend you this tape)." He said that the CD was actually adapted

from a book written by Hendrick Smith that he read during the time of President Corazon Aquino, entitled "The People and the Power Game."

The CD he presented to Ms Arroyo was titled "The Elected, the Presidency and Congress in the United States."

Ermita said he found the book of Smith to be "interesting" and with the CD, "it was very relevant to our political environment."

As to why the President made those strange expressions, Ermita could only say that the Inquiren photographer clicked her camera quickly.

Agri land deal with China still a plan, says DAR Usec

By TJ Burgonio

NOT A SQUARE FOOT OF FARMland has been given to Chinese investors, according to an agrarian reform official in the face of criticism over a plan to convert farms into agribusiness-type plantations to be offered to foreign investors.

reform Undersecretary for support services, said the plan to turn farms into plantations producing hybrid rice or corn, would not involve the leasing of lands.

venture agreements between the

farmers and the investors, he said.

There's a misconception that land utilization entails land lease. That's not the case here," Madueño said in a phone interview.

Leaders of peasant groups Unorka-Pilipinas and Task Force Mapalad picketed the Department of Agrarian Reform offices last week, demanding Gerunio Madueño, the agrarian Madueño's resignation for supposedly enlisting farmlands for agri-business ventures under an agreement with China without consulting them.

"They thought the investors would take over their lands, which What it would entail are joint would be a violation of agrarian reform," Madueño said.

Madueño emlained that none of the different modes of joint venture agreement, like contract-growing, production sharing, and build-operate-transfer, entail the leasing of farmlands.

He said no farmland has been identified for agri-business anywhere in the country since the Philippine-China agri-fisheries agreement was signed in January 2006.

"We're still in the planning stage. We have not offered a square foot of farmland to the Chinese," he said, explaining that the memorandum of agreement was just a framework and that no specific agreements have been approved.

Hospitals call off 'holiday'

By Beverly T. Natividad

AFTER A MEETING WITH HEALTH SECretary Francisco Duque, private hospitals yesterday announced they would hold off a threatened "hospital holiday" to dramatize their objections to a new law that prohibits them from detaining patients who cannot pay their bills.

The Philippine Hospitals Association of the Philippines (PHAP) said it agreed to Duque's request to hold off the boycott and give the health department a chance to address their concerns.

PHAP spokesman Dr. Rustico Jimenez said they will first exhaust all available solutions to their problems with the new law.

"We are good citizens and we want to listen to all their [Department of Health] suggestions first. We want to give them some leeway just to see what they can do

to address this," said Jimenez.

The new law (Republic Act No. 9439) provides that patients can be discharged upon signing of a promissory note covering their unpaid obligations.

Hospital owners said they want the government to tap the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) or the pork barrel (Priority Development Assistance Fund) of each congressmen, for the creation of a guarantee fund in the event that promissory notes are not paid by patients.

The group was planning to hold the boycott for about two days each morth until 2008, unless the government repeals the law.

Jimenez said, they hope the Health department can address their objections and find a way to incorporate their proposals in the implementing rules and regulations of the new law. He said they did not promise to hold off for very long.



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Neri doesn't deny, confirm P200-M bribe offer

project and Cyber Education Project [CEP] during the first quarter of 2007," said Neri, now the head of the Commission on Higher Education.

But Neri said Ms Arroyo did not choose the ZTE to implement the NBN project. That power was exercised by Transportation and Communication Secretary Leandro Mendoza.

Neri said the Neda board only approved the "policy" of setting up broadband and cyber-education projects.

Neri said if called to a congressional probe, he would be covered by Ms Arroyo's Executive Order No. 464 requiring executive department officials to get her permission before attending a legislative inquiry.

Neri told the incurrent that he did see Chinese officials in a "meeting arranged by embassy officials." But he could not recall when it took place.

"At least once. I forgot when, I met with them, with Chinese officials."

"Wag na muna (Not now)," he said, when asked to disclose the issues discussed at the meeting.

"I clarified that this is the position of government at the time-no guarantee, no loan. It was shown in the Neda board minutes."

DOTC should answer

Asked why the deal with ZTE carried a sovereign guarantee for a loan instead of not paying even one yuan through a build-operate-transfer scheme, he said: "It's the DOTC (Department of Transportation and Communication) that should answer."

He said an "American ambassador" and losing bidders also complained to him but he told them to "go back to the DOTC," which should daddress your concerns because we (Neda royo, Shortly after, the Philippine

Ex-lawmaker claims be bas the goods on Abalos

By Norman Bordadora

A FORMER CONGRESSMAN yesterday claimed he had enough evidence to file an airtight impeachment complaint against Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. in connection with his alleged role in the \$329million national broadband network (NBN) deal.

Iloilo Vice Gov. Rolex Suplico said he gathered evidence that Abalos had tried to bribe other bidders to back out of the NBN project.

An unnamed businessman recently told the Inquirer that he witnessed Abalos offer Amsterdam Holdings Inc. executive Jose de Venecia III \$10 million for his firm to refrain from any further participation in the bidding for the project.

"My volunteer lawyers are preparing the impeachment complaints ... They told me we have a case," Suplico told reporters at a news forum yesterday.

There is culpable violation of the Constitution, bribery, graft and corruption and betrayal of public trust,"

board) don't choose suppliers."

Shortly after the Philippine

government and the ZTE signed

the deal, US Ambassador Kristie

Kenney had been quoted as de-

ploring the "lack of transparen-

The NBN contract was signed

by Mendoza and Yu Yong, ZTE

vice president, on April 21 in cer-

emonies witnessed by Ms Ar-

cy" in the deal.

he said of the grounds for impeaching Abalos.

Suplico said his evidence started with Abalos' repeated admission that he had met with ZTE executives several times in the country and in Shenzhen, China.

He added that Abalos also admitted to being at the meetings among ZTE officials, Transportation and Communication Secretary Leandro Mendoza and Finance Secretary Margarito Teves.

"These are badges of participation. Have you ever wondered what he did in China during the election period?" Suplico said.

Lozano complaint

Suplico distanced himself from the impeachment complaint that lawyer Oliver Lozano would file against Abales.

"This is separate from the complaint (of the) loose cannon. This is not a hap hsigo (a local journalist's colloquial for fake) complaint," he added.

Minority Leader Ronaldo Zamora said the opposition in the House would closely look at the pieces of evidence that Suplico would present.

copy of the contract was stolen.

On the same day, Trade Secretary Peter Pavila signed with Chinese authorities a \$460-million deal to build a satellite-based backbone for the CEP on behalf of the Department of Education.

Both agreements were signed in Hainan, China.

Malacañang rejected calls for the cancellation of the \$329million contract with China's

ZTE Corp. for the project.

Definitely, there is no order to discontinue [the project] just because of the uproar," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said at his weekly news conference.

Leaders in both Houses of Congress have called for the cancellation of the NBN contract, claiming that it was attended with irregularities.

Malacañang is leaving it to the courts to decide whether there was any irregularity in the deal.

Ermita said the DOTC was asked to "justify itself" before the Supreme Court and the Office of the Ombudsman which are now looking into allegations of bribery in the brokering of the project.

Suplico has asked the Supreme Court to nullify the

An opposition congressman has filed a case against Mendoza and two assistant secretaries in the Office of the Ombudsman for allegedly entering into a grossly disadvantageous broadband deal with ZTE.

Speaker wants deal scrapped

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. yesterday joined Senate President Manuel Villar in calling for the scrapping of the ZTE contract.

De Venecia said he earlier maintained his silence because of the involvement of his son and namesake Jose III in the controversy as one of the losing bidders for the NBN project.

"Whether (the project) is superior or not is not for me to say because of delicodeza although in principle I am in favor that it be cancelled as pointed out by Senate President Villar in an earlier announcement," De Venecia said.

Viliar on Tuesday called for the cancellation of the broadband deal because it entailed a loan and because many of its features have yet to be explained by members of the administration directly involved in the agreement.

The NBN project seeks to es-

ZTE defends deal

GIVING IT'S SIDE, ZTE POSED public," Xue said. the question: "If our proposal is unfavorable to the Philippines, I wonder how you would describe our competitors?"

In a statement, Howard Xue, ZTE global marketing director, posed the question amid allegations that the ZTE pressured the Philippine government into agreeing into an unfavorable NBN deal.

"The problem is that people see 'Proposal One's amount is \$330 million' while 'Proposal Two's amount is \$240 million,' and automatically assume that the second is less. But there is such a thing as clever presentation to hide overall costs, and the use of propaganda to condition the minds of the

Under ZTE's proposal, the government will get a \$330 million loan from the Chinese government at an interest rate of 3 percent per annum. The loan has a five-year grace period, and is payable in 15

On the other hand, Amsterdam Holdings Inc. will take out a \$240-million loan at commercial rates with around 10 years

AHI will also require the Philippine government to issue a performance undertaking, Xue said.

AHI's proposal would come out at least \$60 million more expensive than ZTE's, based on interest payments, he said.

tablish a seamless connection of landline, cellular and Internet services among all government agencies and offices.

A group of lawmakers in the House is preparing to file an impeachment case against Abalos for allegedly brokering the deal on behalf of ZTE and trying to bribe an executive of a rival firm to drop its bid for the project.

Abalos has denied any wrongdoing.

Satisfied with Mendoza

Ermita said there was no reason for the Palace to investigate aliegations of bribery because the matter was already with the high court and the Ombudsman.

"The President is satisfied that the primary secretary (Mendoza) has informed her that these things are to be inquired into by the Ombudsman and the Supreme Court and she doesn't have to believe all the allegations coming out in mass media," the executive secretary said.

As it is now, the public discussions on the NBN deal are just being manipulated, according

We must be able to pinpoint the responsibility if there are irregularities as alleged. So let the court determine that," he said.

Ms Arroyo, he also said, was "confident that the Cabinet officials handling this particular undertaking are up to the challenge of handling it."

The President definitely has confidence in her Cabinet, especially Larry Mendoza," Ermita said.

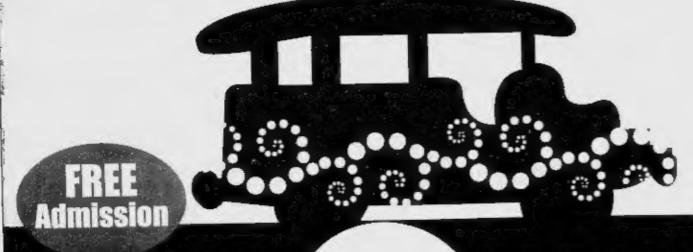
In Senate Resolution No. 127, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. urged the blue ribbon committee and the committee on trade and commerce to look into the overprice of the NBN deal and Abalos' 'highly suspicious and blatantly irregular, if not unlawful" lobbying in behalf of ZTE before, during and after the elections. With reports from Norman Bordadora and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Tony Bergonia

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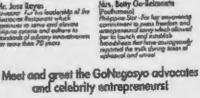














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CA upholds murder raps vs Leviste

From page Al

Velasco that there was probable cause to charge Leviste with murder, and also ruled that there was basis for the reinvestigation as well as Makati Judge Elmo Alameda's admission of the amended information.

It likewise dismissed the former governor's claim that the reinvestigation was not impartial in light of Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez's earlier statement that murder, and not homicide, should have been the charge filed.

Leviste is accused of shooting dead his longtime aide Rafael de las Alas on Jan. 12, 2007, in his office at the LPL Tower in Makati.

He was initially charged with homicide but Alameda granted the request of the De las Alas family for a reinvestigation, which was conducted by Velasco.

Leviste has since been arraigned for murder but was later released on bail.

The pretrial is scheduled on Sept. 26.

Bail unaffected

Velasco said in a phone interview that with the appellate court's decision, Leviste's prosecution for murder would contin-

He said the decision would not affect the grant of bail to Leviste because the court had ruled only on the issue of the reinvestigation of the case and the subsequent finding of probable cause for mur-

"The bail matter is at the discretion of the hearing court. Our motion for reconsideration [questioning the grant of bail] was already denied," Velasco said.

In another phone interview, Leviste's lawyer Manuel Singson expressed disappointment with the court's decision but said "this does not change the pic-

"We're disappointed but this does not affect our case in any way. Whether the charge is murder or homicide does not matter because we've always treated the case as murder," he said.

Singson said he did not know whether the prosecution intended to present evidence other than what was presented during the bail hearing.

I doubt if they have more evidence. At the bail hearing, they failed to present strong evidence that the case was murder, and not homicide," he said.

Probable cause, not guilt

The appellate court said there was no reason to reverse Velasco's finding, which Leviste had described as baseless.

It pointed out that a reinvestigation was not a trial of the case on the merits and was only intended to determine probable cause, and not the guilt of the accused.

"In this case, however, the resolution dated Feb. 2, 2007, issued by [Velasco] after the reinvestigation appears to have been duly supported by probable cause," it

It added that the three-day duration of the reinvestigation and the subsequent issuance of an arrest warrant and the setting of Leviste's arraignment were insufficient reasons to reverse the findings.

The court also said Gonzalez's statement that Leviste should have been charged with murder-made when the justice secretary lectured the acting city prosecutor of Makati-did not merit the nullification of the reinvestigation.

It said that Gonzalez's utterances did not show a prejudgment of the case, and that it was within his power to control and supervise prosecutors.

"While good sense dictates that [Secretary Gonzalez] should have been more circumspect in giving statements before the media with respect to the subject reinvestigation, his statements alone are not indicative of a prejudgment, or a determination to file the amended information for murder even in the absence of probable cause," it said.

No abuse of discretion

There was no evidence either that Alameda had abused his discretion in allowing the reinvestigation, the appellate court said.

It found no merit in Leviste's argument that it was only he who could seek a preliminary investigation, saying the prosecutor could ask for a reinvestigation of a case that had been filed in court. In this case, Velasco had agreed to the motion for reinvestiga-

tion. "Hence, private complainants, with the conformity of respondent prosecutor, are legally authorized to move for the reexamination of the evidence and for reinvestigation of petitioner's case, should they choose to avail [themselves] of the said remedy, instead of appealing to the Secretary of Jus-

tice," it said. The court also said Alameda did not have to conduct a hearing before issuing an ar-

rest warrant. It said the judge's determination of probable cause for the issuance of a warrant was based not only on the prosecutor's resolution but also on other documentary evidence.

Not new information

The court further said the amended information for murder could still be admit-

"An amended information is not a new information because it does not charge another offense different or distinct from that charged in the original one ... It is only after petitioner's arraignment that no substantial amendment of the information may be permitted," it said. With a report from DJ Yap

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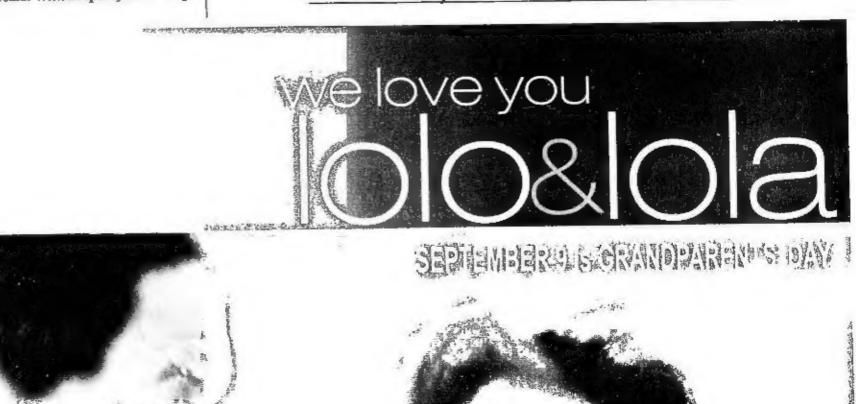


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Lomibao named to Berroya's job at LTO

From page A1

Arturo Lomibao.

Ms Arroyo last week named Devanadera as officer in charge of the DOJ in a concurrent capacity after Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez took a medical leave.

Compared to a "caretaker role" as officer in charge at the DOJ, which is only ministerial,

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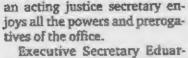
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do Ermita told reporters Ms Arroyo made the decision because there are questions (about a caretaker role), considering so many important cases" were pending with the

As officer in charge, De-

vanadera cannot sign appointments or make decisions, "so she should be given power and authority to sign important" documents, said Ermita.



LOMIBAO: Made way for JDV

Devanadera, in turn, designated lawyer Amparo Tang as officer in charge at the Solicitor General's Office.

A native of Pangasinan, Lomibao agreed during the last



BERROYA: DOTC Asec

May elections to stand down in the congressional fight for the province's fourth district, against Speaker Jose de Venecia.

Ms Arroyo also made several other appointments-Francisco



DEVANADERA: Acting DOTC chief

Benedicto as undersecretary of foreign affairs, Felecito Masagnay as commissioner of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, and Oscar Inosentes as presidential assistant

Col 1:9-14

for judicial affairs with the rank of undersecretary,

Ms Arroyo is scheduled to leave for Australia today to attend a summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic (Apec) forum.

On Monday, Ms Arroyo designated Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno as presidential adviser on political affairs, in a concurrent capacity.

Musical chairs

Ms Arroyo had previously assigned National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales to temporarily oversee the political affairs office after Secretary Gabriel Claudio resigned for health reasons.

Gonzales was directed to concentrate on the case lodged in the Netherlands against Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Ma. Sison, and on possible peace deals with armed rebels.

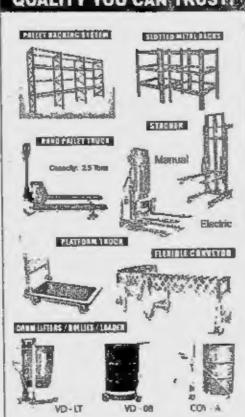
Ms Arroyo said that Puno, who is also president (on leave) of her Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino (Kampi) party, would serve "indefinitely" in the dual role of head of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the political affairs office.

Ermita said he understood that Puno would be officer in charge at the office vacated by Claudio.

A stalwart of the ruling party Lakas-CMD, Claudio underwent delicate spiral surgery on Aug. 8. He resigned from the Cabinet on Aug. 24.

Other members of Ms Arroyo's official family who were reshuffled recently were Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri, who was "temporarily" moved to the Commission on Higher Education; Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes, who took over the energy department; and acting Defense Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane, who was returned to his old post at the Department of Public Works and Highways.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Thursday, September 6, 2007

22nd Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:

Luke 5:1-11 Gospel: One day, as Jesus stood by the Lake of Gennesarer, with a crowd gathered around him listening to the word of God, he caught sight of two boats left at the water's edge by the fishermen now washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to pull out a little from the shore. There he sat and continued to teach the crowd.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your ness for a catch." Simon replied, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing. But if you say so, I will lower the nets." This they did and caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. They signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats aimost to the point of sinking.

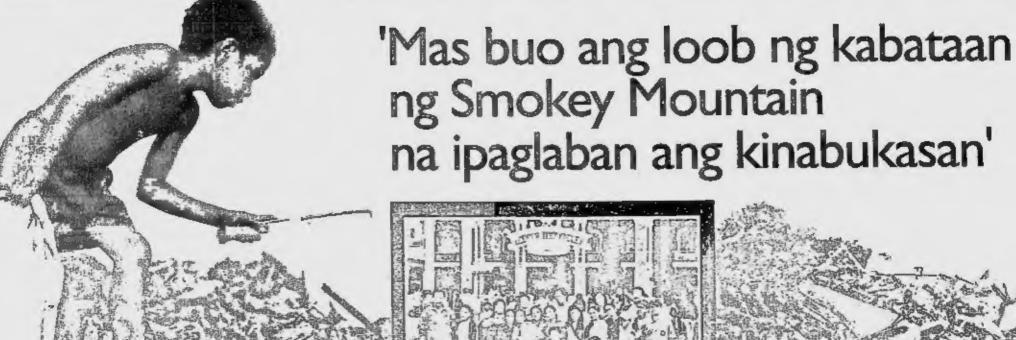
Upon seeing this, Simon Peter fell at Jesus' knees, saying, "Leave me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and his companions were amazed at the carch they had made and so were Simon's partners, James and John, Zebedee's sons.

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. You will catch people from now on." So they brought their boars to land and followed him, leaving everything. Commentary

We are meeting the churches of Paul as he travels. We see his pastoral concerns with each of them, and how they are developing and staying faithful to the teaching they have been given. There always are prayers for knowledge and wisdom (gifts of the Spirit) and that we may live a live worthy of our baptisms (calling).

Jesus preaches this Word and life and then gets into Peter's boat and commands them to set out into the deep-they obey and eatch so many fish they almost sink the boats. Peter gets a sense of who this man Jesus might be and asks mercy and forgiveness. We must always go back to this-that we are meant to go out into the deep with our God, ask mercy, be not afraid, leave all, and follow Jesus into the depths of God. Time for taking a risk?

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here escape is a natural recourse, the young leaders of Smokey Mountain opt to remain and work to see more improvements in their community.

Many of them have seen many key cities of the world. They have performed as a cultural dance group to raise funds for scholarships. Asked about their dreams, they hardly speak of leaving the country for better lives. They want to stay and see more progress at Smokey Mountain.

They want their community to be recognized as a Philippine showcase of transformation - from a community of dwellers who made a living out of a huge garbage dumpsite to one of dignified living, through self-help and perseverance. They want to be known for caring for people and the environment.

They see the recent Supreme Court decision, which upheld the validity of the Smokey Mountain Reclamation and Development Project that provided them permanent homes, as a propeller of dreams, a "bonus" for their efforts.

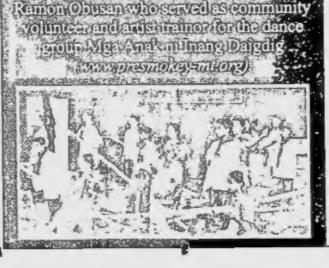
"Para sa akin, bonus na ang Supreme Court decision. Nakuha na namin ang tunay na halaga ng magkaroon ng sariling bahay, ng malinis na paligid (I regard the SC decision as a bonus. We have long realized the benefits of having our own homes and clean

It has been nine years, starting from early 1999, since permanent homes in 21 medium-rise residential buildings were turned over to 2,520 families who were beneficiaries of the project undertaken by the National Housing Authority and R-II Builders Inc.

surroundings)," states Andrew Macalalad, 28, Parish

Youth Coordinator.

Andrew, who brought the Smokey Mountain stench with him to grade school, has been to Australia, US, Hong Kong and Japan with the cultural dance group and was 2006 representative to the APEC Youth Summit in Vietnam. As one of the first church scholars, he graduated with a degree in customs administration from the Philippine Maritime Institute. But he is not about to let go of community work. He still wants to see more youth volunteers give of their own selves for their community.



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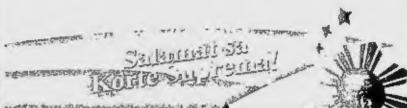
would improve) a states Shirley Cotoner.

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SC upholds detention of Army major in Feb '06 coup try

ARMY MAJ. JASON AQUINO Maria Fe's petition for the release will remain in detention after the Supreme Court dismissed the habeas corpus petition of his wife Maria Fe and ruled that his detention by the military

The high court upheld a Court of Appeals decision dismissing

of her husband, who is among several officers charged with involvement in the February 2006 coup attempt.

Aquino is charged with attempting to begin a mutiny in violation of Article 67, and with conduct unbecoming an officer and a

96 of the Articles of War.

According to the high court, Aquino's detention was proper as he is governed by military law, and the Articles of War allow military officials to detain their personnel.

In its Aug. 31 decision released

gentleman in violation of Article yesterday, the high court said Artide 70 of the Articles of War empowers the commanding officer to place, "in confinement or in arrest, any person subject to military law charged with a crime or with a serious offense under the Articles of War."

"As a general rule, the writ of

habeas corpus will not issue where the person alleged to be restrained of his liberty is in the custody of an officer under a process issued by the court which has jurisdiction to do so," it said.

The high court also rejected Maria Fe's argument that Aquino was not restricted to barracks or

quarters as required by the Article 70 of the Articles of War, but was instead placed in solitary confinement in a maximum security detention cell. She also said she was banned from visiting her husband, and described his treatment as extreme punishment. Leila B.

Port of Manila posts record

Commissioner PORT OF Manila has posted a record collection of P7.37 billion in August, the second consecutive month that District Collecment's tor Horacio P. Suansing has exceeded his tor, hit its target of half budget deficit P20.8 billion in Autarget.

Suansing said the The Bureau of August collection was 13 percentabout P770 milwhich lion-more than the Port of Manila's target last month. "We will contin-

ue to plug all revenue leaks and increase the port's collection," he said in a press statement.

Napoleon Morales told reporters on Monday that the Bureau of Customs, the governsecondbiggest tax collec-

Internal Revenue, accounts for two-thirds of the government's tax take, also likely met its collection goal of P82 billion for August based on initial

The performance of the two agencies

in the previous two months indicates that state revenues are back on track after a weak first

The government exceeded its firsttarget by about a third after it failed to tackle widespread evasion. It is relying on improved collections and asset sales to meet its full-year shortfall goal of P63 billion.

With a report by







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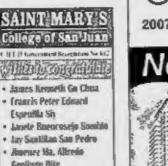


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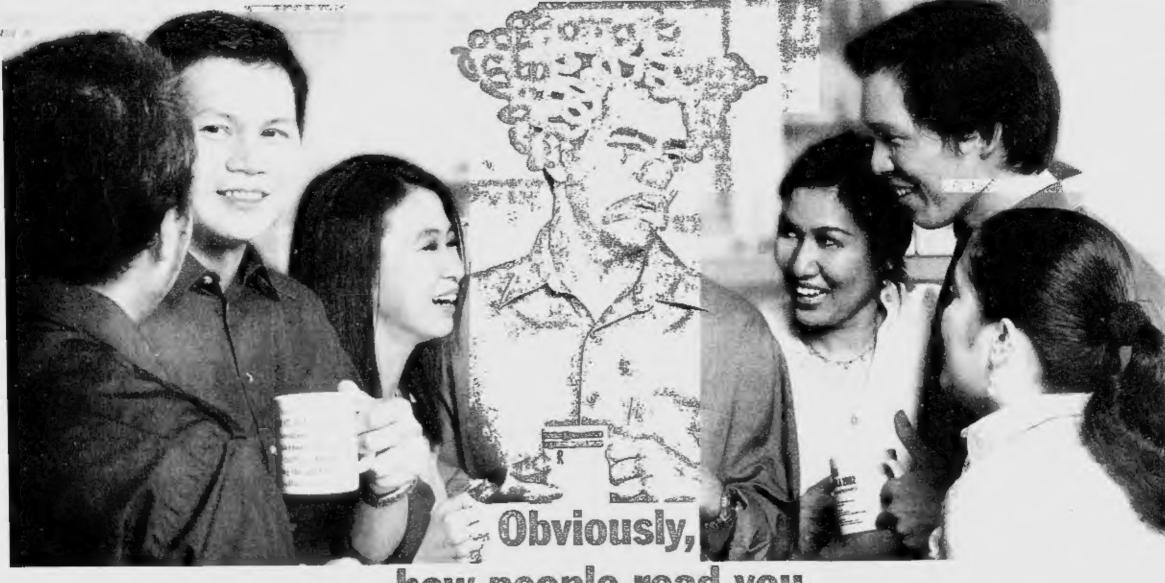




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GMA set to have 20-minute meeting with Bush tomorrow

From page Ai

meeting, Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo will have a meeting with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Foreign Undersecretary Edsel Custodio said the agenda for the Bush-Arroyo meeting would be up to the two leaders.

"Leaders, when they meet, there is no agenda. You could probably guess the issues," Custodio said in a media briefing. But he said the issues of terrorism and transparency were likely to crop up.

Business meetings

On Saturday, Ms Arroyo will discuss with Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi the resumption of the government's peace talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, which Kuala Lumpur hosts.

Ms Arroyo will also meet with

the Filipino community and CEOs of leading American com-

Tomorrow, Ms Arroyo will see Dr. Stan Shih, group chair of ID-SOFTVCAPITAL and cofounder of the Acer Group; Chip Goodyear, CEO of BHP Biliton; and Andronico Luksik, Chilean mining executive.

She will have a working dinner with the president and CEO of the US Chamber of Commerce and the US Apec Business Council.

Spreading the good news

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye told reporters in Manila that Ms Arroyo was looking forward to talk with Apec leaders "on how to promote economic stability, ensure peace and security, regional prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region while dealing with the global challenge of climate change."

Bunye said Ms Arroyo would discuss the "good news" about the country's economy and its "unwavering fight against terror" during the Apec summit.

"The President will be an active participant in discussions especially on climate change, given its impact on our country's weather patterns and effects on the agricultural sector,"

In her talks with Bush, Ms Arroyo is likely to discuss the country's new antiterror law, according to Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita. He said that the United States was actively supporting the Philippines' efforts to counter terrorism.

Jose Ma. Sison

Ermita also said the two leaders were likely to talk about US support for the Philippine military, including provision of

equipment and training.

Asked whether the recent arrest of communist leader Jose Ma. Sison in the Netherlands would be raised, Ermita said it was possible considering that US Ambassador Kristie Kenney was quoted recently as saying that the United States would help out if asked by the Netherlands in its case against Sison.

At the end of their two-day retreat, participants will issue the Apec Economic Leaders Declaration which will contain the strategic direction for Apec next year.

Apec groups Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Hong Kong-China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, United States and Vietnam. With a report from Christine O. Avendaño

Asia-Pacific nations to strengthen food, product safety standards

trying to map out a more robust approach to strengthening the region's food and product safety standards as ministers from the 21-member bloc opened their annual meeting yesterday.

The measure is among a number of initiatives outlined in a draft declaration prepared for the meeting of trade and foreign ministers from the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum ahead of their leaders' summit at the weekend.

"We agreed on the need to develop a more robust approach to strengthening food and consumer product safety standards and practices in the region, using scientific risk-based approaches, and without necessarily compromising trade," the draft declaration says.

The ministers called for greater confidence in food safety standards.

"We obviously take very seriously this whole issue of food safety," Australian Foreign Min-

ASIA-PACIFIC NATIONS ARE ister Alexander Downer told reporters. "There needs to be

greater confidence in standards. "I think there's a consensus about that."

Apec member China has been battling a torrent of warnings and recalls abroad that have shaken the confidence of international markets in the "made in China" label on products ranging from toothpaste and toys to food and tires.

Toymaker Mattel Inc. on Tuesday announced a third recall of Chinese-made toys, saying it would take back more than 800,000 units globally with "impermissible" levels of lead. (Story in World, Page A20.)

The food and product safety measure is among a number of initiatives Apec is undertaking to enhance security in the region, including potential threats from terrorism, drugs and contaminated products, pandemics and the consequences of natural

Protesters Down Under to show Bush bottom line

From page Al

Cooperation (Apec) -nomic summit.

Police have said they expect violence during a series of protests against the Apec summit which will gather together 21 leaders from around the world.

"There's this heaviness about the protests," Saunders said yesterday.

'Burns not bombs'

"It's hoped to make the point "It's hoped to make the point that protests don't have to be these terribly heavy serious things."

E The "Bums Not Bombs" group will particularly target Bush, whose unpopular war in

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by Australian Prime Minister John Howard.

The visits by the world leaders, including Bush's five-day stay at a luxurious US\$3,500 per night harborside hotel, have resulted in road blocks, changes to public transport, and other disruptions in Australia's biggest city.

The protest will take place in Sydney's Hyde Park, close to where the leaders will be meeting.

'21 Burn Salute'

In a leaflet to possible supporters, the group calls for 4,000 cheeks-er, 2,000 people-to "tell Bush what we really think about his visit."

Saunders said numbers for

Iraq has been strongly backed the protest were not yet certain but he had a core group to perform a "21 Bum Salute" to represent each of the countries in the grouping.

Bush apologizes

"I think there's certain to be hundreds of people," said Saunders, who previously attracted media attention when he and another man painted "No War" on the Sydney Opera House in huge, bright red letters on the eve of the US invasion of Iraq in

The group said it needed 4,000 cheeks to break the previous world record moon. "This is one Apec protest we can all enjoy" it said.

Bush himself seemed unworried about any of the protests, but he apologized for the tight security net that has snarled traffic.

"To the extent that I've caused this, I apologize," Bush said at the press conference with Howard yesterday. "I apologize to the Australian people if I've caused this."

'What a pain'

His doleful words came after an Australian reporter welcomed him to Sydney and emphasized that "it doesn't always look like this, with steel fences, and concrete barricades, and. armed guards on the street."

"I hope you feel safe," Bush

broke in. "You feel inconvenienced, obviously."

Amid the largest security operation in Australian history, Bush said that the last thing he wanted was to have his hosts conclude "what a pain it is to have the American president" as a result.

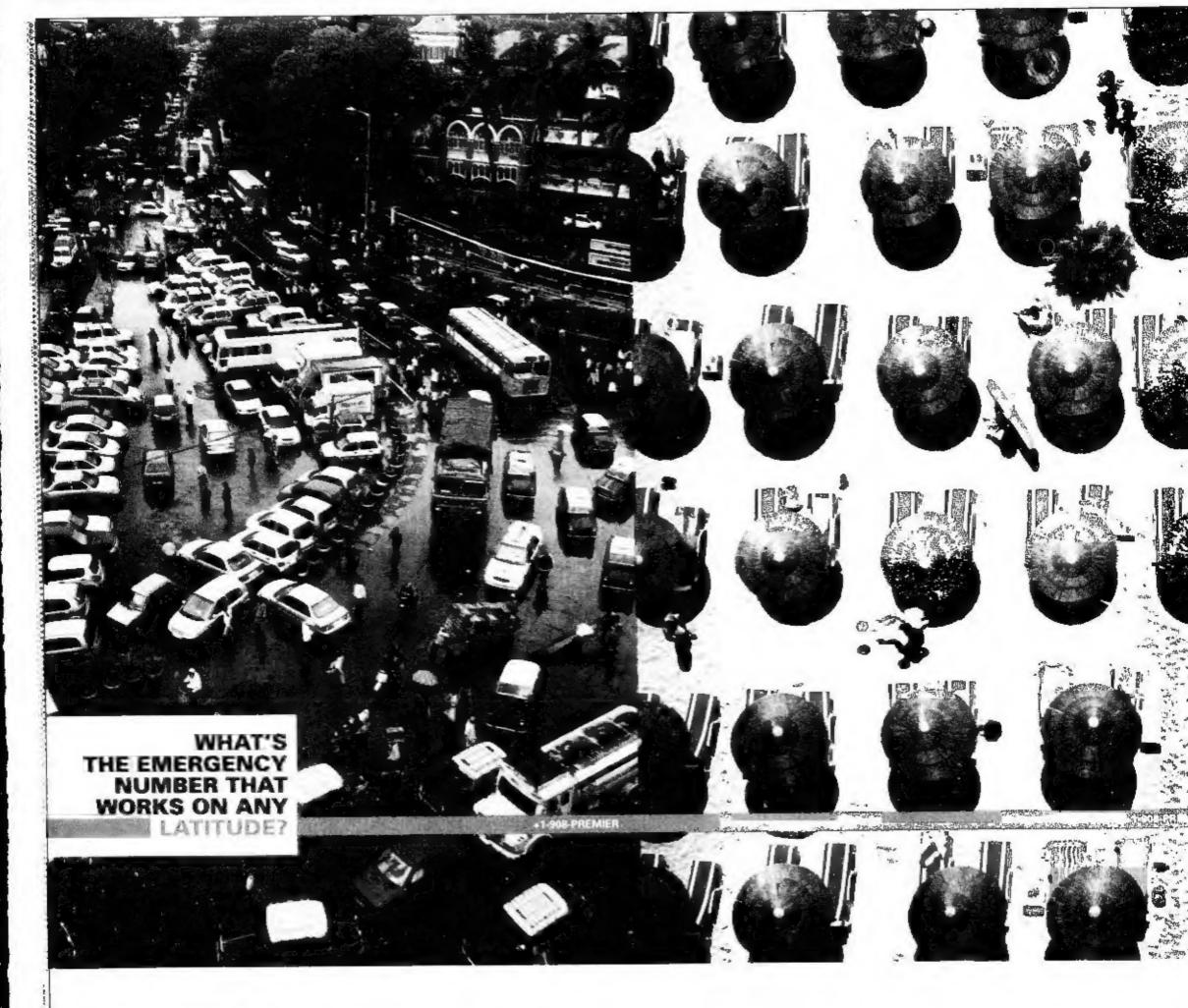
Feeling guilty

"Unfortunately, however, this is what the authorities thought was necessary to protect people. And you live in a free sociery. People feel like they want to protest-fine, they can. And unfortunately, evidently, some people may want to try to be violent in their protests," he

When the reporter said he was not blaming Bush personalby the US leader replied: "I guess I must be feeling guilty, you know what I'm saying?"-drawing laughter from the audience.

Around 3,500 police, backed by 1,500 counterterrorism and special forces soldiers, are enforcing a city center exclusion zone bordered by a forbidding fence in a security crackdown criticized as excessive by civil libertarians.

The 2.8-meter-high steel and concrete wall stretches some 5.5 kilometers through the city and around iconic tourist attractions such as the Sydney Opera House.



7 1 9

Joma not covered by amnesty, says Esperon

From page A1

ered," Esperon said.

Asked if Sison's alleged crimes in the Philippines would be covered, Esperon quipped: "I think that's something for the legal minds to study. Probably yes, but he is now facing charges in Netherlands. So our amnesty will not cover any laws of other lands."

US assistance

Sison, 68, founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines, was arrested by Dutch police on Aug. 28 and ordered detained by a judge in The Hague.

A statement by Wim de Bruin, spokesperson of the Dutch national prosecutor's office, said Sison was suspected of giving orders, from the Netherlands, to murder former communist associates Romulo Kintanar and Arturo Tabara.

The CPP and its armed wing, the New People's Army, have been listed as terrorist organizations both by the European Union and the United States.

US Ambassador to the Philippines Kristie Kenney has said that Washington is willing to help the Dutch government prosecute Sison if the latter would seek US help.

AFP backs amnesty

At the Malaysian reception, Esperon said he expected more legal questions to crop up on the qualifications of applicants for amnesty once the proclamation was released and submitted to Congress for concurrence.

Esperon said the AFP fully supported the amnesty proclamation as long as the rebels would return to the mainstream. He said the AFP was part of the discussions when the amnesty proposal was being considered.

Legal loopholes

"It's OK with us if they come to the mainstream, except of course for certain crimes like rape, and crimes not in connection with political beliefs. Otherwise, we will go for that," he stressed.

Former President Fidel V Ramos, who also attended the Malaysian affair, said he, too, was for giving amnesty to rebels except for crimes committed not in furtherance of political beliefs.

Ramos urged Malacañang to carefully study the parameters of the amnesty program to avoid legal loopholes.

The National Security Council the other day approved the grant of amnesty to communist rebels willing to lay down their arms, in a move it hoped would hasten the conclusion of the stalled peace negotiations with the communist National Democratic Bront.

The amnesty could also cover partylist representatives charged with rebellion for their alleged involvement in a conspiracy to overthrow the government in February 2006, Presidential Peace Adviser Jesus Dureza and National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales

Administration ploy

Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo described the amnesty offer as "malicious ... (and) consistent with the Red-baiting tactics of Malacañang against progressives."

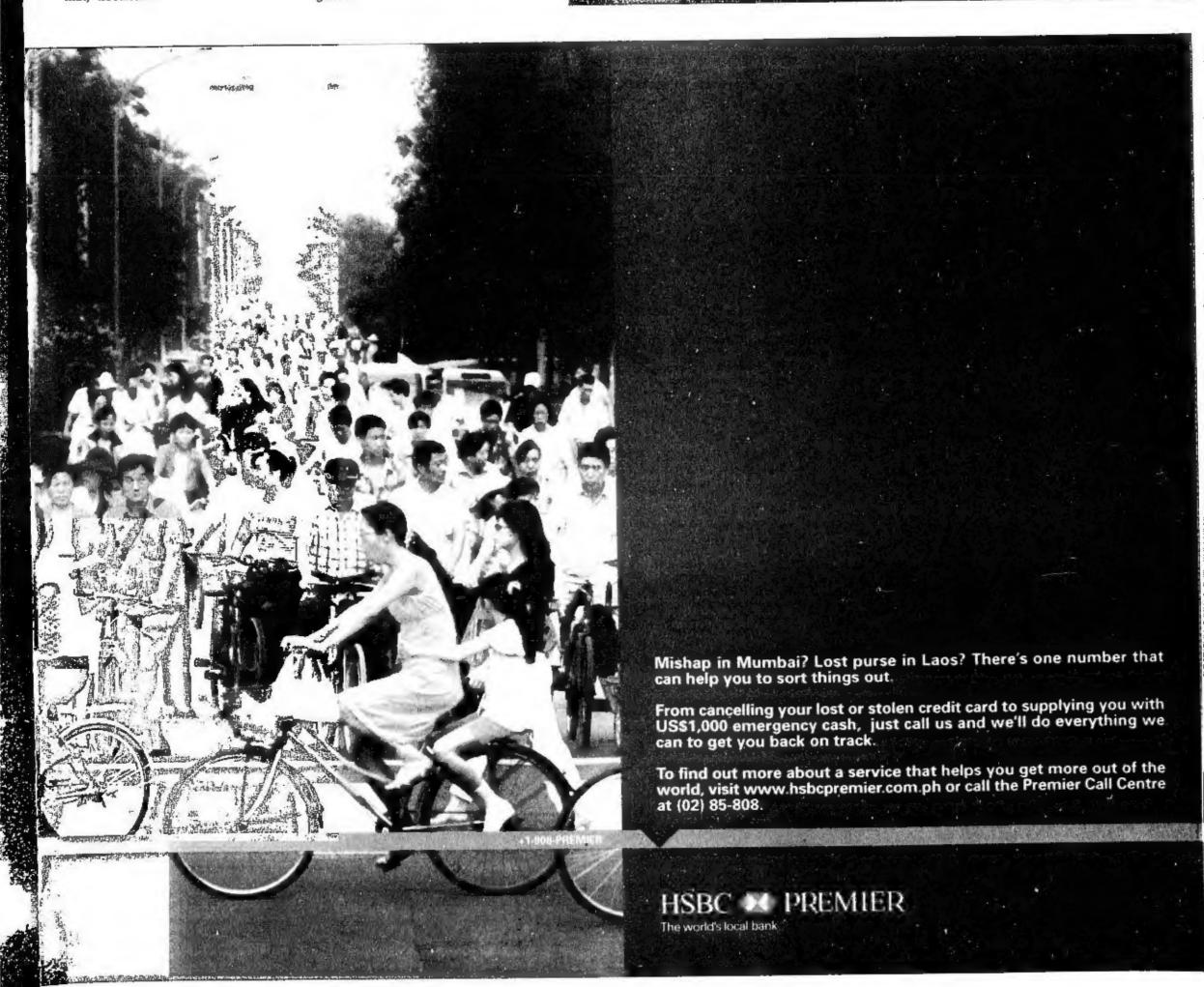
Ocampo reminded Gonzales and Dureza that the Makati Regional Trial Court had already dismissed the "Palace-fabricated" rebellion cases against him and 50 other coaccused.

"The trumped-up rebellion case against us has long been dismissed by the Supreme Court," said Gabriela Rep. Liza Maza.

Ocampo said amnesty "is a standard counterinsurgency ploy in light of the government's declared goal to finish (off) by 2010 the Left insurgency (by) strategically defeating the New People's Army."

"(For) amnesty to be meaningful, (it) must form part of a comprehensive peace agreement and not a unilateral act of government in an ongoing armed conflict," he said. With a report from Christian V. Esguerra





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Cop-out

THE POLICE HAVE CHANGED TACK ON THE JONAS Burgos mystery, and unfortunately for the missing activist and all those who hope to see his abductors brought to justice, the police have moved in the direction first tracked by the military. Now the police see communist rebels, and only communist rebels, as responsible for the

EDITORIAL

We have serious reservations about the new witnesses presented by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, however. Many of these concern the implausibility of the military's claims, but the most significant doubts arise from

what went before these witnesses were presented. Military sources that journalists have relied on for years have sworn that a unit of either the Intelligence Service of the AFP or of the 56th Infantry Battalion based in Bulacan were involved in the abduction. A state prosecutor has asserted that six soldiers were behind the disappearance, a claim that earned him the justice secretary's displeasure. And ever since Burgos was forcibly seized in a mall last April, the leadership of the AFP has acted in a less-thanforthright, suspicion-inducing manner: stonewalling, finding excuses not to appear before the courts, refusing to

turn over the results of internal investigations. For these and other reasons, we find the military's most recent version of events suspect. Unfortunately, the police now share that interpretation. And they have brought to it

their own worst practices. Let us, using the most recent statements of Senior Supt. Joel Coronel of the Criminal Investigation Detection Group, consider only two of these fatal flaws.

First, an almost total dependence on eyewitness testi-

mony Coronel is well within his rights to judge the testimony of Emerito Lipio, a member of the New People's Army, as providing the most "logical and coherent" picture of the Burgos abduction. That is his lookout. But his complete reliance on Lipio's belated testimony illustrates the weakness of many, if not most, of the cases our police officers in-

They are, most of them, based on the say-so of someone or other. For that very reason, many of them do not prosper in court—the testimonies are eminently recantable.

To be sure, in the Burgos disappearance, Coronel speaks of a pattern he sees in the testimony of other witnesses. "[Lipio's] statements are consistent with what other witnesses have told us before."

But his case, as he makes it, depends entirely on these witnesses. He excludes such evidence as the license plates of the Toyota Revo used in abducting Burgos from the mall, which have been traced back to the impounding area inside the headquarters of the 56 IB in Norzagaray, Bulacan. (Why? They, too, were pointed out by eyewitnesses.)

This brings us to the second worst practice. Coronel's statements remind us, yet again, that the police sometimes have the habit of disregarding the evidence that is right before their eyes.

Coronel, for example, said he found the alleged connection between the controversial license plates and military involvement in the Burgos abduction "really puzzling."

Now that's a puzzlement. By any reasonable standard, the fact-and it's a fact-that the plates on an abductor's vehicle were traced back to a battalion HQ should be considered to mean that a prima facie case does exist to investigate the possible involvement of battalion officers or men in the abduction.

Unfortunately, it would take enormous self-confidence and political will on the part of the police to say that. Thus, the cop-out: Police officers who now choose to give credence only to those witnesses whose testimony favors the

Checkmate?

HE LATEST INTELLIGENCE REPORT ABOUT IRAQ-A CONvincingly cold-eyed assessment-shows that the United States has almost no moves left to make in Iraq.

If the recent "surge" of additional combat brigades is showing signs of success, it's yet another indicament of the decision to invade Iraq without enough troops to effectively control the country.

FOREIGN COMMENT

The recent glimmer of good news from the fighting is hardly a promise of success. America cannot succeed unilaterally in Iraq; it can only give Iraqis enough breathing room to succeed themselves. Security may buy time, but the ultimate solution must be

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Cry of the widows

"IN EUROPE, THERE ARE ONLY TWO COMmunists left," editor Sumono Mustoffa said over dinner in Jakarta. "Both are Filipinos." Since then, the National Democratic Front's Luis Jalandoni has become a naturalized Dutch citizen. Thus, in negotiating scuffles between government and the NDF, the late columnist Maximo Soliven would grouse: "Why is this alien meddling in our internal affairs?"

By Sumono's head count, that left Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder Jose Ma. Sison, 68. "If you're a 'true believer,' live in North Korea," columnists Alejandro Roces, Astonio Abaya and others needled Sison. "Or fight with the New People's Army."

Instead, Sison sought haven in the Netherlands in 1987. He chose well. The Netherlands' traditions of democratic space are sturdy.

The Dutch government bucked the deportation of Sison to ensure his protection from persecution. It facilitated meetings, between the NDP and the Philippine government-in The Hague in June 1996, in Breukeien in March 1997. Sison pocketed social benefit checks-stopped only after the European Union tagged the NDF and the CPP as terrorist

Sison exploited this libertarian elbow room to stoke a "people's war" here by e-mail and fax, dispatched from the comfort of his Utrecht flat. The burgis lifestyle of these overfed aging commissars saps their credibility," the Cebu Daily News noted. "Absentee-generals stand Mao's dicrum-'Revolutions are not a garden party'-on its head."

Dutch police arrested Sison late August. The national prosecutor's office asserted that Sison ordered "the murder (of) former political associates in the Philippines-Romulo Kintanar in 2003 and Arturo Tabara in 2004." Both broke away from Sison's group in the early 1990s. NPA hit men gunned them down. "A truly ugly image was the spectacle of party-list representatives toasting the assassination of a former comrade, who was Kintanat," snapped the Inquirer's Conrado de Quiros.

HISTORY LIVES-IN THE INTRAMUROS AND

Rizal Bagumbayan Light and Sound Museum.

That's at Baluarte San Diego, a few blocks

away from San Agustin Church. I was there

with some friends last week with a tour guide

named Richard Gordon (this was his baby

when he was tourism secretary) and I must

confess I was pleasantly surprised, and im-

pressed, by what I saw. It's a lot of sound and

to nothing about our past. The tour is not unlike

the Universal or Disneyland tours if you've seen

those (which is almost obligatory if you're visit-

ing folks in America), though much scaled

down, of course. And if you can do a tour of Hol-

lywood movies, you can most certainly do a

tour of Philippine history. I can vouch at least for

Light and Sound's entertainment value: It's

guaranteed to not bore you the way your ele-

mentary and high school history class did, with

its emphasis on names and dates. The only

more money—the tour costs only P100 and mu-

I am tempted to say this should be made re-

quired viewing by students, but we can always begin with Dick's fellows in the Senate and

Joe's minions in the Batasan. I'm willing to bet

that if you give our senators and congressmen

a half-sheet-of-paper quiz on history, most of them will flunk. Hell, I'm willing to bet that if

you ask them to sing "Lupang Hinirang," most

past will give them a better sense of this coun-

try's present and better care for its future. I can

vouch as well for the fact that what the Light

and Sound tour lacks in the kind of special ef-

fects the Universal and Disneyland tours

flaunts it makes up for in the special effect it

The jour starts with our pre-Hispanic past and

Who knows? Maybe grounding them in the

of them will flunk.

has on the heart and mind.

movie with your MU and eating popcorn.

Everything for us, Filipinos, who know next

fury signifying . . . everything.

VIEWPOINT Juan L. Mercado

Sison is detained at Scheveningen Penitentiary Facility while courts evaluate charges filed by the widows, Gloria Kintanar and Veronica Tabara. Under Dutch law, it's criminal to plot murder in the Netherlands, even if the trigger is pulled elsewhere.

Sison will get a fair trial. Dutch courts are independent and fair. But do his comrades see the patent irony? Kangaroo courts that stud the communist system they peddle would shred Sison's rights.

Sanctuary, as extended by countries like the Netherlands to foreigners like Sison, is a privi-

lege. It is not a right. Privilege is interlinked with responsibility. And scrupulous observance of the host country's laws is the bare

minimum expected. Utang an look runs deep in the Filipino psyche. Yet, party-list Representatives Satur Ocampo and Teodoro Casiño "transformed the Netherlands from 'patron of patriots' into flackey of the illegitimate," a Freeman editorial noted. "According to

the gospel of Ocampo and Castilo, (the Netherlands) suddenly became a Gestapo state. (They) conveniently forget that for 20 long years, the Filipino communist leader lived off the graciousness and protection of that country." Will the publicity jerk the Filipinos' fixation

away from "Wowowee" long enough to hear the cry of hundreds widowed by communist salvaging in our midst?

"You kill the chicken to scare the monkey" was how Mao Zedong justified the murder of party leaders who bucked paranoid rule. That grisly proverb anchored the communist pogroms of the 1980s and the CPP's adoption of assassination as policy starting in 1992.

"A first set of death sentences were publicly announced," after the party splintered, Pierre Roussett of Europe Solidaire Sans Frontiers writes. Aside from Kintanar and Tabara, those killed included Benjie de Vera and Popoy Lagman. "Sison explained it was necessary to kill the chicken to scare the monkey," the study says. Thus, Hector Mabilangan's murder in April 1994 vas a warning to Rolly Kintanar and others."

Killings escalate the threat beyond the Left, Roussett notes. It squeezed recalcitrant "taxpayers," including those election "permits to campaign." The CPP-NPA-NDF "Hir List-A Preliminary Report" notes that in February 2004, the party pinpointed individuals and organizations as "counter-revolutionary"-and therefore targets for murder. Among those tarred were Rep. Etta Rosales, Walden Bello of the University of the Philippines, Sixto Carlos, Lidy Nacpil, Nathan Quimpo and Manuel Quiambao Peña of Akbayan and Joel Rocamora.

"Assassination is turned against the whole independent Left to impose monopoly of power," the study adds. "An overall policy of threats, death sentences and killings (was) deployed on a national scale, something no other

Only Sison's release, we're told, can save the stalled peace-talks. Tell that to the judge, An independent tribunal of a sovereign country will judge the evidence, not w street protestors chant.

The Philippines anchors the peace talks on its Constitution. Nothing that impairs national sovereignty is acceptable. But the NDF rejects the reach of that Constitution. At every turn, it stakes claim to a "status of belligerency," i.e., that it is an equal among nations. But not even North Korea recognizes the NDF as such. Neither do the other 191 United Nations member-nations.

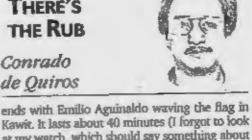
Whether the peace talks can be rescued is no longer the issue. Rather, are they worth saving? After all, the other party slaughters chickens to spook the monkey.

E-mail: juanlmercado@gmail.com

Walls

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



Kawit. It lasts about 40 minutes (I forgot to look at my watch, which should say something about how engrossing it can be), a journey in time (and space: you go from room to room) from the small villages that dotted the islands engaged in planting and small-scale trading with seafaring Chinese; to the coming of the Spaniards and the initial resistance to them; to the conquest of the islands by Legaspi who employed divide-and-conquer; to the cementing (quite literally) of Spanish rule with the building of Imramuros; to grinding oppression and the rebellions it spawned; to the rise of the ilustrados and their names you have to remember are those of your greatest representative, Jose Rizal; to the birth of dates to the tour. You could do worse spending the Katipunan; to Rizal's trial and execution; to snatching victory from defeat, a nation is born seum officials are trying to find a way to make it free for hard-up students-watching a bad from the ashes of a martyr.

It's a splendid and gripping story, told, if not at a rapid-fire MTV pace, at least in a visually exciting style the kids in particular should find

"kewl." I liked three things about it: First is that it tells our story from our point of view. This version of it shows once and for all that the days when Philippine history begins with Magellan's discovery of Macran are over. We never needed discovering, we were always here, minding our own business, living peaceably with others and as freely and happily as it is possible to do with a simple economy. R Landa Jocano was one of those who did much to show that we were by no means a primitive people when the Spaniards came: we had a rudimentary form of written language, a fairly well-layered social organization and strong religious beliefs. Of course, historians objected to his use of "Philippine prehistory" to

depict that period, which bolstered the view that Philippine history really began with the Spaniards. But time, as the Light and Sound presentation now shows, has changed all that.

Second is its insight into the significance of Intramuros, Intramuros, of course, means "Walled City," a thing that truly deserved its name. It was built on the backs of the conquered natives, and it became the physical and spiritual embodiment of Spanish rule. The segment about Intramuros expressly says it, noting that the walls did not just rise in space, they rose in the indio's mind, making him believe there will always be a wall between what he is and can be, between his aspirations and their fulfillment. Unfortunately that theme is not resolutely pursued or "concretized" throughout the narrative. Well, it is never too late to make editorial, if not historical, revisions.

But it's true: Colonialism was the building of walls in space and mind, It built solid divisions between classes, much like the caste system; it built solid divisions within classes, or among the indios themselves, an affliction we labor under to this day; and it built a wall, strung with barbed wire and patrolled by a tower, in the Filipino mind, one that would make freedom-a Bagumbayan or Bagong Bayan, a New City outside of the Walled one always seem unattainable. Jose Rizal broke some of those walls, as did others before him. But to this day, the dream of a Bagong Bayan remains elusive.

And, finally, there is something genuinely awe-inspiring standing on the ground where Rizal spent his last days on earth, and reliving those moments even if you only have life-sized figurines, the sounds of silence and "Fuego!" and the dark to do the trick. The past does spring back to life, and you must be a little dead to not feel at the end of it that you are right there in Bagumbayan, reduced to one of the helpless spectators watching Rizal falling to the ground in slow motion.

If only walls could talk? Ah, but these walls

can. These walls do. And how they talk!

OPINION

Time to pursue peace at local level

A RECENT REPORT QUOTED NEW ARMY CHIEF Lt. Gen. Alexander Yano as saying that communist guerrillas in Southern Luzon are abandoning their camps due to demoralization over the recent arrest of their leader, Jose Ma. Sison, in the Netherlands. Yano said the military has discovered abandoned rebel camps in Quezon and Mindoro, which could indicate that many rebels are trying to find a way out of the communist cause

It's not difficult to believe this. For over 20 years, Joma has been allowed to live freely in Utrecht, with liberal access to media and the Internet, and to run a revolutionary war by long-distance. Now he faces trial in The Hague for allegedly ordering the execution of two ranking comrades.

This may be the right time to pursue peace with the demoralized rebels. In fact, even before the arrest of Joma, a few neophyte members of the House of Representatives told me they were seriously planning to pursue peace in their own turfs. They know the rebels operating in their areas and after seeing the peace process come to a standstill at the national government level, they want to broker a dialogue between local government officials and rebel chieftains in the hope of forging an agreement to work together.

This is a wonderful idea. Too much Filipino blood has been senselessly shed on both sides of the ideological fence. Pursuing peace now at the local level has a far better chance than at the national level, where both sides engage mostly in saber-rattling for international consumption.

At long last after a decade and a half of seeking to upgrade the quality of passports and visas issued by the Philippine government to international standards, the Department of Foreign Affairs finally got it going last July. Overcoming difficulties with the contracted bidder, the DFA issued the first machine-readable passport (MRP) to a senior citizen named Herminio Torres. In the MRP, the passport holder's personal details are entered through a computer, instead of being written manually or by longhand. Thus, the Philippines was able to comply way ahead of the

POLITICAL TIDBITS Belinda Olivares-Cunanan 🛭

deadline imposed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for all member states to begin issuing MRPs by April 1, 2010. We are one of 188 member-states of this specialized UN agency created to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation.

Poreign Assistant Secretary Domingo Lucinario of the Office of Consular Affairs explained to this columnist that the immediate benefit of having the MRP is that border processing all over the world will be faster. Our passports' "machine-readable zone" needs only to be swiped or scanned at immigration counters abroad, instead of Pinoys being segregated from other travelers with "more modern" passports. Luci-nario also said the MRP makes falong passports more difficult and deters crime and terrorism as it features a digitized second photo in letter screen on the identification page that incorpo-rates biographical details of the holder visible only with the use of a decoding lens. This device makes photo substitution difficult.

The new maroon-colored passport has 12 more pages than the old green one but costs the same. The DFA says that green passports remain valid until their expiry, but it is encouraging people to apply early for the MRPs. I can only hope they're really hard to fake, given the ingenuity of criminal syndicates.

Hazing reared its ugly head again at the University of the Philippines Diliman campus, mocking RA 8049, the Anti-Hazing Law. Killed was Sigma Rho Fraternity neophyte Cris Anthony Mendez, prompting Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago to call for an inquiry, which was supported by

her colleagues, Upsilonian Francis Pangilinan and Sigma Rhoan Juan Ponce Enrile. Santiago said that if nothing is done to curb this evil, Congress must review the law and consider abol-

ishing all fraternities and sororities How can hazing be curbed? One sure way is to make frat elders crimmaily hable together with those conducting the initiation rites if they fail to supervise these exercises. Under the Anti-Hazing Law, if a person dies due to hazing, all the officers and members of the organization who participated in the act of violence shall be liable and penalized by life imprisonment. But it seems the law must be amended to also penalize the senior officials and elders of the fraterary, who must be identified. The reason frat members become barbaric is that more often than not, there are no elders to supervise and discipline them. This was one of the key findings of the investigation conducted following the fatal hazing of Ateneo law student Lenny Villa several years back, but nothing seems to have come out of it.

I recall a short story in our comparative literature class at UP, titled "The Use of Porce," by William Carlos Williams, whose thesis is that even very normal and ordinary people can succumb to brucish and sadistic tendencies at some point even when merely disciplining children. How much more those who are under the influence of liquor and perhaps drugs and left without supervision by el-

Alay sa Kawal Foundation is the beneficiary of a fund-raising dinner-concert for the widows and orphans of ordinary soldiers killed or wounded in action. The show, titled "Salute to George," features such talents as Aliw-awardee and classical-pop star George Tagle, veteran singer by Violan, renowned soprano Rachei Gerodias and Cinco Angelo (billed as the local counterpat of Il Divo), backed up by the Manula Philharmonic Orchestra. Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes will sing two numbers for the soldiers' families. The concert will be held at the Crowne Plaza Grand Ballroom on Ortigas Avenue on Thursday, Sept. 13, 2007, at 7 p.m. Call Rose at 911-5615 or 4387100, or producer Beth

Sison-Tagle at 0917-5088-858.

In the dying light in a pauper's eyes

THE ABSENT ONE. THIS WAS HOW MOTHER Teresa referred to that absence that she felt in her life during her 50-year dark night of the soul.

Where was the beloved, the one for whom she poured out the substance of her life, the one supposed to give meaning and purpose to her selfless daring to love the world's most abandoned?

Mother Teresa's own revelations, kept and hidden even after her death 10 years ago, and made public just recently in a book ("Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light" edited by Rev. Brian Kolodiejchuk), are now the subject of scrutiny and speculation, even of awe. It is Time magazine's cover story this week.

But this happens to those who tread that mystical twilight zone reserved for the highly spiritually evolved among us. It is a price they have to pay. They have been privileged to experience the divine so intensely and intimately. And when the peak experiences that have led these chosen ones to do daring acts of love, when the ecstasy and consolation are withdrawn, when from lush orchards they are led to deserts, barren and desolate, there is no balm for the pain. Worse, there can be neither feeling nor non-feeling. Just a yawning absence

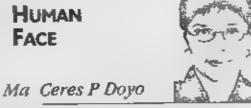
But what made Mother Teresa's dark night so different from that of other known mystics was that it went on for a long stretch of 50 years. And despite this trial, she held on to what she believed she must do-to love what the world deemed unlovable-even while she herself was going through a seemingly "loveless" existence.

"Where is my faith—even deep down right in there is nothing, but emptiness and darkness. My God, how painful is this unknown pain..."

Hers was blind furth in its truest form, faith threatened but, sh, roaring with a fury. She pushed on, making the world believe what must be believed—that God loves unceasingly and so must we-and put aside how her own soul felt. She never expressed her doubts openly, except to her spiritual guides.

Was she lying then when she constantly spoke to the world about that great love that quenched her and sustained her work? Was she lying when

FACE



she inspired others to seek that love and respond to it, and also spend their lives like she did?

Indeed, countless others have followed Mother Peresa's path to those who are hidden and hideous to the world's eyes. The thousands who, over the years, have joined or worked with the Missionaries of Charity (the congregation she founded in 1948) are proof that the divine love that she missed was not absent. It was at work.

Heroic indeed are those who do acts of sacrificial love even when love-the feeling-has hidden beneath the ruins. That is the real test. Mother Teresa surpassed the test. She was like an athlete who made it first to the finish line despite injuries and doubts

It is with some guilt that I go over the words she wrote me many years ago. She responded to my scathing letter (in which I enclosed a biting statement from a Filipino religious) about how she "held hands with the dictator Marcos." It was the late 1970s, the Philippines was under martial rule and I did not like the way the dictatorship feasted on her presence and made her the face of compassion, how she allowed herself to be used. I was an admirer of that "something beautiful for God" that she was doing and that was precisely why I wrote her. I was disappointed and angry when she came and was swept into the arms of the conjugal dicratorship.

I was young, imperuous. I mailed my letter in India and I received her response while I was still there. From Calcutta, she sent me a stinging hand-written response. It was not short and sweet. Here is a paragraph: "I had not gone to

Nitty-gritty compared to GDP

the naked, give home to the homeless—that is all To be able to do this, ours is a life of prayer and action and so we proclaim Christ to the poor... It is easy for you to preach the theology of Liberation and Justice with full stomach and well rested bodies, but our people in Binondo and other places around the world have to suffer the pain of hunger plus the discontent you have created in their lives. For me this is the greatest injustice done to the Poor. .. " And more.

I did write about that exchange ("Mother Teresa's strong letter to me," Sept. 11, 1997) shortly after she died.

All those years, she was painfully and secretly seeking her God. In the vastness of all the hiding places, in the immensity of a million faces, in the dying light in a pauper's eyes.

I am sure, in death, she found the Absent One at last. This God who had walked her across sandstorms and ramstorms, across fields turned white by lightning, this God who had walked her to the edge and bade her to cross alone. And then was

In death, she arrived at last and realized The Absent One had been waiting.

Bravo, Bacolod and Dumaguete, for inviting the Manila Symphony Orchestra, the oldest in Asia, now composed mostly of young, talented musicians, for concerts. (La Salle-Bacolod yesterday and Silliman U on Sept. 7 and 8.) Helen Quach conducts. This is Quach's second coming this year, after a 16-year absence. The Saigonborn Chinese-Australian conductor, the toast of the stage for decades since she was in her 20s, later had to go through her own "dark night" and journey toward healing. (We wrote about this in the Sunday Inquirer Magazine, May, 29, 2007)

Get a jolt in the soul from Beethoven, Grieg (with planist Cristine Coyluto) and Tschalkovsky. Bravo to St. Scholastica's College that provides a home for MSO and hones orchestral talents. The music will live on.

Send feedback to cerespd@info.com.ph

your country to discuss politics, not to preach jusnce, but just to serve: to feed the hungry, clothe

LET ME BEGIN BY CORRECTING THREE ERRORS madvertently made in my previous column. The first two are that the first quarter 2004 GDP growth figure was eventually adjusted from 6.4 percent to 7.15 percent while the second quarter 2004 GDP growth figure was eventually adjusted from 6.2 percent to 7 10 percent (not vice-versa as I'd written). Third, the 7.3 percent figure I erroneously stated as the (upwardly) revised first quarter GDP figure is actually the GDP growth for the first six months of 2007, which is the average of the 7.1 percent for the first quarter (first three months) and the 7.5 percent for second quarter (second three months) GDP growth figures. The first quarter GDP growth figure of 6.9 percent was revised upwards to 7.1 percent.

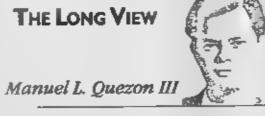
And something a reader from the business community pointed out in response to my last column: "The problem ... is that the method of computing GDP was changed in 2004. The National Statistical Coordinating Board (which presented the numbers) does not know if [the GDP]

ciaim can be substantiated."

Now let me move on to figures that hit closer to home than the GDP The definitions of what is needed to survive, and the cost of minimum survival, are arrived at after intricate, scientific calculation. But apply those calculations in the real world, and you realize how even that may be far from the reality of many Filipinos. This is how we get a grip on self-rated hunger in the surveys, which drives our officials nuts. The thing is, a lot more of us want the luxury of living to eat, rather than merely eating to live

Take a look at the regional menu for the National Capital Region developed by the Food and Nutrition Research institute. This menu was used as part of the computation of the latest food and poverty threshold. From the paper "Issues in Estimating the Poverty Line" by E David and D.S. Mahgang, here's a description of how the menu is arrived at. "The one-day menu is formulated from local food consumption patterns to satisfy 100% In the Seconggended duriery allowance (ITDA)

THE LONG VIEW



for energy and protein, as well as 80% of the RDAs for the other numents and vitamins. The RDAs for energy and protein, which vary according to age, sex and body weight, are on the average 2,000 kilocalories and 50 grams per person, respectively. Prices from various price surveys of the National Statistics Office (NSO) and the Bureau of Agriculture Statistics (BAS) are used to determine the cost of the one-day menu."

The menu quoted in the paper is as follows: Breakfast: tomato omeler, fried rice; coffee (for adults) or milk (children). Lunch: fried galunggong; munggo guisado with small shrimp and malunggay leaves; boiled noe; lanadan banana. Dinner: pork adobo; pechay guisado; boiled rice. To make these dishes, these are the FNRI's calculations, per person, in terms of ingredients. All weights after the ingredients or items, are in grams (and for the heck of it, I've added my own comparisons in parentheses).

Rice, white, ordinary 350 (2 cups of rice a day); pandesal, 50 (P2 pandesal usually weighs 35 grams per piece; although officially, "Pinoy pandesal" supposedly weighs 25 grams at P1 per piece); sugar, white, 15 (just a linde more than one little package of Sunflower brand Haw Flakes 12.5 grams); margarine, 5, cooking oil, 20 (the weight of one Magnolia Cheezee spread sachet), milk, filled or evap, 33; egg, chicken, 23 (a little less in weight than a regular 3-cracker package of Skyflakes, 25 grams); small shrimps, 15 (slightly over 2 pieces of Hershey's Chocolate strawberryflavored candy at 7 grams each); galunggong, 49; for others, a scandal. Personal liver, 5 pork. In upo 15 finagment cube of # iv a useful benchmark

pork the size of a P5 com)

Munggo, green 10 (the weight of one packet of Shakey's hot sauce); tomatoes, 30; pechay, nanve, 32; malunggay leaves, 18, banana, latundan, 68: Vinegar, coconut, 5; onion, 6 (slightly less than a pack of Aji-no-moto Guinisa Flavor Mix, 7 grams), garlic, 1, toyo, 5; salt, 6; coffee, soluble 1 (one sixth of an instant sachet) Try weighing these items at home and see

This list meets "the minimum income/expenditure required for a family/individual to meet basic food needs, which satisfies the nutritional requirements for economically necessary and socially desirable physical activities." It would cost a family of five P4,920 to cook the menu listed above, multiplied five times and multiplied further by the days of the month, Last year, the amount was P4,151 monthly, or P137 per person daily.

Non food basic needs come next. As determined by government statisticians, they include the following: clothing and fnotwear; fuel, light and water; housing maintenance and other minor repairs; rent; medical care; education, transportation and communications; non-durable furaushings; household operations; and personal care and other items. These add up to P3,334 a month for a family of five.

So the NSCB says, "Pilipino families living in NCR comprising of five members should have carned a monthly income of P8,254 to be able to sustain their families' minimum basic food and non-food needs. Of the P8,254 monthly income, P4,920 (60 percent of the poverty threshold) should have been allocated for basic food needs and P3,334 (40 percent of the poverty threshold) to basic non-food needs of the family." Last year, the poverty threshold was P6,211 for a family of five per month (or P204 daily)

To go back to that menu and the portions. They are scientifically impeccable. But are they practicable? For some, such a menu would be a dream, for others, a scandal. For you, the reader, definite-

Piano lessons

MY ATTEMPT TO MASTER THE PIANO STARTED WHEN I was in Grade 1, I was asked by a classmate to accompany her to her piano lessons, which I gladly agreed to do. We would enter a room adjacent to the school chape! This room was where the nuns running our school stayed, and this was where they kept also two pianos. I would sit in the sofa next to the piano, as my friend proceeded with her fessons. In

time, I became fascinated by the awift movements of her fingers and I found myself enthralled by the harmony they produced.

When we were in Grade 3, I would slip into the room to hear the man give piano lessons. When I

welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed. found the place deserted on one occasion and saw the piano's cover left open, I walked cautiously toward the piano, and began to trail my hands on the keys, imagining myself playing a piece. Soon, the piano teacher, with her sagging cheeks and

We want to know what the young

are thinking about. What are their

thoughts on current issues? We

YOUNG BLOOD

Jeca Enad

deep-set eyes, arrived and in a moment she was by my side. I bolted up like a startled cat, my heart thumping. She smiled at me, and then sat on the chair facing the piano and invited me to sit beside her. My hands were trem-

bling and my entire body was shaking She asked if I was a new student, and I truthfully answered no. But by then she was already scanning one of those booklets on how to play the piano. She began tapping a key with her finger and told me, "Do. This is do."

I immediately realized that she wasn't the terrifying witch that I thought she was, but the exact opposite. I found myself learning to play the "Do-Re-Mi Song."

The kind nun told me to come back, but after a couple of sessions, I could not bring myself to go there. I was afraid that she might ask payment for my lessons and thought my mom would kill me if she knew. I forgot about learning to

When I was in grade 5, our family moved to the house that my old grandma seemed to have neglected. The house was adorned with beautiful china and porcelain vases as well as an antique piano. My mother, who is partly Chinese, is deeply superstitious, and she decided to keep the antique wares not because of their value, but because she believed they would bring good luck. My father had the piano tuned in an antique shop, and when it was brought back, I started playing the "Do-Re-Mi Song" again until I got bored and gave

On my father's birthday, a man clad in a black suede shut came, carrying a little suitcase. The guests gathered around the plano, as he took out a long tool and tuned it. After that, they began singing to his accompaniment, even as they consumed several rounds of alcoholic drinks.

I admired the man's skill on the piano. It reminded me of the nun's beautiful hands and the beautiful music she created, except that he was better. My desire to master the piario was revived, and I began imagining myself playing as well as

That summer, my mother hired an old lady from the church's choit as my piano tutor. Almost every afternoon, she would bang her cane on our steel gates and demand to be let in. On the piano, she would grab my index finger and teil me in a loud voice, "Do! This is do! Do!" My fantasy about morphing into a piano virtuoso turned into a nightmare. Every time I would press the wrong key, she would seize my finger in rage and lead it to right key and then make me strike it again and again until my finger felt sore. The piano lessons, which used to be a pleasure, made me pray night would come quickly so that our lesson would be over, I got tired of her, and she got tired of the Before the summer was over, she quit saying she could take no more in her old age

I learned a few good pieces under some people who had the patience to make me watch them play and memorize each note by observation.

Our plano remained untouched for a few years. Recently when I felt like playing my favorite piece again, I found that it was off-key. Its sound was so horrible that I continued to play the piece in the desperate hope that by some miracle the piano would fix riself.

Of course, it didn't. Once again, my quest to wield magic on my fingertips was at a dead end. I couldn't call the man who graced by father's birthday a few years back, because I heard he had fled to another country to join his dear wife, and he was the only person my papa knew who could tune a piano expertly. I couldn't take piano lessons with the kind nun I met many years ago, because she had gone to heaven, and another who was more horrifying than the old women from the choir had taken her place as a piano tutor in the

So, here I am left with my tattered hopes and a piano that is badly out of tune. But someday, maybe someday, I will learn to play it well.

Jeca Enad, 15, is a high school student at St. Catherine's College in Carcar, Cebu.

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THEY SAID

Abhorrent

"The killing of the soldiers and the beheading of some are truly abhorrent acts. But why should we follow the way of violence, resorting to similarly abhorrent acts in order to 'correct' violence?"

-The Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines, in a press mainment about the government's all-out offensive against the Abu Sayyaf

Starvation

To us in the Cordillera, even the thought of chronic hunger or starvation is not part of our vocabulary. In our values, to allow a family to starve is not only a disgrace, it is a crime."

—Thomas Killip, presidential assistant for Cordillera offairs, countering a recent health and nutrition report saying the Cordillera provinces are "hungry"

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PINION

The doc who moved a mountain

Tan for writing about Doc Louie. (INQUIRER, 8/31/07) I am Doc Louie's eldest son and I want to share with Tan and his readers our short tribute to the noble "Duktor" ng Bayan."

"Ode to Lolo Louis (in praise of Dr. Glorioso V. Saturay)"

They say a death of somebody/ Who lived a life for the people/ Is as heavy as a mountain/ But no, a death of somebody/ Who lived a life for the people/ Is really not a death at all it's life nurturing other lives For the life you lived is a thread/ in weaving the people's new dawn.

The poem was written by his 14year-old granddaughter, Ilena Rose

a foolish old man who went to a mountain and began to dig. A wise old man passed by and said, "Why do you dig, foolish old man? Do you not know that you cannot move the mountain with a little shovel?"

But the foolish old man answered resolutely, "While the mountain cannot get any higher, it will get lower with each shovelful. When I pass on, my children, their children and their children's children will go on digging, making the mountain lower. Why can't we move the mountain?"

We cannot think of any other way to describe how Doc Louis has become a part of so many people's

WE WANT TO THANK MICHAEL. She was inspired by that story about lives. He carried on his work as a doctor fighting a disease caused by poverty, greed, exploitation and oppression with the dedication and determination of the foolish old man trying to move a mountain.

The way he cared for, valued and served other people, especially the poor and the oppressed, is the single most valuable legacy that he seft for all of us. And we shall all try our best to carry on our lives and our work this way. I am sure that this is the way that he would like to be remembered. Some day, people will wake up and realize that the mountain had been moved.

-JUN SATURAY, jun.saturay@gmail.com



Root cause

"APPARENTLY THE EDUCATION system faces two major challenges: access to education, and issues of quality." ("It's the basics, stupid," IN-OURER, 8/23/07) May I respectfully add the third major challenge Philippine education is facing-how to eradicate corruption in

Corruption is the basic source of such problems as poor quality, hurriedly printed books, unfinished or sub-standard school buildings, missing funds, growing incompetence among the ranks where posttions are given to the highest bidder, wrong priorities and many more.

When will our education officials ever learn? The future of our children-the hope of our nation—is at stake here.

-JAMES TANAKA. tanakajd1980@yahoo.com

GSIS explains fewer claims, loans

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK SOLIta Monsod for bringing to our attention several issues about the Government Service Insurance System. We have also communicated with Ernest Fedenso of Ilollo so that we could act on his 19-stem list concerning the GSIS which unfortunately was only brought to our at-tention through Monsod's column

However, permit us to explain the decline in the number of transactions in GSIS claims and loans. It is true that the number of transactions decreased from 5 million in 2004 to 4.6 million in 2005, and 3.6 million in 2006. There is a fairly simple explanation for this: In 2004, the GSIS offered two new loan programs, the Cash Advance and the Summer One-Month Salary Loan (SOS) In 2006, the GSIS offered an improved loan package called the Conso-Loan. This loan program consolidated three types of loans, the Emergency Loan Assistance, SOS and the Salary Loan.

The Conso-Loan extends the term of the loan to a maximum of six years. It also provides higher loan proceeds for members. More importantly, the Conso-Loan condones all the penalties and surcharges that availing members have incurred from unpaid loans Simply put, several loan programs were consolidated into one in 2006, thus, the decline in the number of transactions.

We also appreciate the fact that Monsod agrees with the eCard Plus concept. We believe that the eCard not only promotes efficiency in the disbursement of claums and benefits but also protects our members and pensioners from fraud and such cases.

We hope that we have enlightened Monsod on some of the issues ratsed in her column.

-ELLA E. VALENCERINA, vice president, Public Affairs Office, Government Service Insurance System, Passy City

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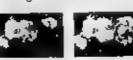
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One-sided report on 'Couples' split

THE NEWS ITEM TITLED "BISHOPS TO DIScuss 'Couples' spirt," under the byline of Jeannette I. Andrade (INQUIRER, 8/28/07), appears to be biased in favor of Antonio Meloto who is often quoted in the report. It's only his side of the issue that gets prominently articu-

There was also this aliusion that Frank Padilla formed a "faction" dubbed as "Easter or Playboy bunnies." The reporter must be referring to the Restoration movement that later blossomed into the Couples for Christ Foundation for Family and Life (CFC-FFL)

No one in Frank's group ever called it "Playboy bunnies," which cannot but be taken as a pejorative label considering that this is a "Catholic and faith-based community." It must have come from Frank's detractors. Yet, it gets printed as a fact in the report.

-GEORGE DEE. geex26@yahoo.com

I was covering an activity of the Gawad Kalinga at the University of the Philippines when I chanced upon Antonio Meloto. Naturally, I took the opportunity to get his side on the reported split of the Couples for Christ. I apologize if the report seemed one-sided but be assured that there was no intention to make the article biased in favor of any personality involved in the issue

-JEANNETTE I. ANDRADE, reporter, Inquirer

Continued success for Inquirer, Cunanan

AS CHAPLAIN OF THE HOSPITAL OF THE Infant Jesus for many years, I have been buying a copy of the INQUEER every day, from a vendor, I congratulate the publication.

In the Aug. 12 issue, I was especially interested in the articles "Eight steps to a strong heart," "The world within reach," "50 years of working for Christ and country," "Are you sleeping with the enemy?" and "Taking hold of technology," among others.

And I am also interested in the column of Belinda Ohvares-Cunanan, not just because she has mentioned me many times in her column but because of her objective views on many events.

Wishing the Inquires continued success in helping us have an objective view on the many events happening in the Philippines and various parts of the world.

--- Fr. Pierre T. Tritz, SJ. president, Educational Research and Development Assistance (Erda) Foundation Inc., 66 Linaw St., Sta. Mesa Heights, QC

Sigma Rho alumni also want justice for Mendez

IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, IT HAS BEEN REported, in both print and broadcast media, that the UP Sigma Rho Fraternity was involved in the death of Cris Anthony Mendez, a senior UP

The Sigma Rho Council Inc., the alumn as sociation of the UP Sigma Rho Fraternity, condemns in the strongest possible terms the un timely death of Mendez. We both urge the police and university authorities to thoroughly investigate this unwarranted incident to ferret out the truth.

We condole with the family of Mendez. No words can assuage the pain and gnef over the loss of a son. We assure his family that the Sig ma Rho Council Inc. is interested as much in bringing things to light so that justice may be

served. We also appeal to the media to be more circumspect in their reporting and not make a media circus out of the incident. Such will only serve to muddle the issue. Quite surely, the proper authorities are doing their job to solve

the incident. We raise once more our call for the univers: ty fraternities to convene, with the participation of university officials, and seek a common plan of action to arouse a collective conscious ness, rooted in civic responsibility, to put an end to activities that only breed a culture of violence in society.

-BIENVENIDO I. SOMERA JR., president, Sigma Rho Council Inc. Legaspi Village, Makati City MORTHERN LUZON BUREAU Room 201 Bonuar Apartella 10 Happy Glen Loop, Bagulo Cily Tel. No. (074)443-9258 Fax No. [074]443-8971 E-mail: Inq_bagulo@mquirer.com.ph

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Student groups seek abolition of SKs



A TEENAGE boy fills out the application for registration for the synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang A LEGITIAGE oby this out the application on Elections office in Guinobatan town in Albay.

Kabataan elections this year at the Commission on Elections office in Guinobatan town in Albay.

BAGUIO CITY-THE COUNTRY'S STUDENT GOV. nap-for-votes or kidnap-not-vote ernments want the abolition of the "non-performing" Sangguniang Kabataan (SK), now that Congress has started deliberations on the fate of barangay and SK elections scheduled next month.

They announced in a Sept. 5 manifesto that they would launch a letter-writing campaign to draw attention to their appeal, which was issued on Tuesday at the close of the National Leadership Training for Student Government Officers at Teachers Camp here.

Where youth belong

Joey Pelacz, executive director of the Department of Education's Center for Students and Co-Curricular Affairs, said government must ensure that all youths go to school, a mandatory state service that SK officers discard in exchange for salaries and perks offered by weekly city, municipal and provincial council sessions.

Benralph Yu, president of the Region XI Federation of Student want the October elections to push through at all to enable gov-

ernment to reallocate the money meant for the polls to augment the budget for public education.

This was not the first appeal for SK abolition, the students said. But their teachers said this was the first position on the SK coming from DepEd.

Better councils

Yu said student councils are better equipped to represent the country's youth then the SK, a carry-over from the Kabataang Barangay (KB) of the martial law period.

Student leaders said the student councils could begin community work to make up for the vacuum opened if the SK is abolished.

The manifesto, signed by 6,000 high school students and teachers, said the SK elections have "initiat Governments, said they do not ed our young early into the ways of tradinonal politics because of the dirty tricks, vote-buying, kid-

tactics and mudslinging employed by their relatives and parents, who are themselves politicians, and their political patrons."

Basis for existence

But Yu said the student governments have not compiled evidence to prove that the SK has become corrupt.

"The SK has lost the bases of its existence with its miserable performance or non-performance to pursue its mandate for 15 years to develop the youth for service, patriotism and leadership, increase their social consciousness and enhance their participation in nanon-building," the manifesto said.

"The programs and projects being implemented by the SK are too insignificant if not unterly irrelevant, consisting mostly of construction of waiting sheds and signposts that conspicuously bear and perperuate the SK officials' names, and wasting precious resources that could have funded more important and urgent concerns such as public education." Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luson

ROUNDUP

Oil leaks from sunken ship

CAMP VICENTE L M. Laguna—A still undetermined volume of on has eaked from a 34-year-old sunker passenger ship off Sibuyan island in Barangay Magadia, Concepcion, Rombion during a salvaging operation to retrieve the derenct sea vessel on Tuesday

"As of our latest survey of the area, the oil which dripped from the sunker. ship is not that much for us to consider it as an oil spill. It's just an oil leak," said Mimaropa police director Chief Supt. Napoleon Cachuela told the Incurrer.

Orienta Mindoro police chi ef Senior Supt. Agri pino Cruz also denied that the oil leak had reached the coasta, villages of Pinama, ayan town. "Maybe those who reported the incident mistook the place as Pinamalayan because the Island of Rombien is just near the area " Cruz said in a mob e phone interview

Cachusta said workers hired by a shipping company were retrieving the sunken MV Mactan on Tuesday afternoon when its on compartment was accidentally damaged. "We're still investigating what really happened and what is the extent of the oil leak," he said.

MV Mactan sank off Romblon and Marinduque in 1973

Japan funds fish project

DAGUPANIC TY-The Japan International Cooperation Agency (J.ca) has chosen this city and the towns of Lingayen and Binmaley as recipients of a fish breeding project.

Mayor Atip o Fernandez Jr. said the project, a collaboration between the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-National Integrated Fisheries Technology Development Center (BFAR: NIFTDC) and Jica, aims to enhance the liverihood of rocar fish growers and provide them with scient fic knowledge and skills on aquaculture production.

sica representatives lied by team leader Tokio Kitamado limet with Fer nandez and some viriage officials here on Aug. 20 to discuss the project's benefits for Dagupan's aquaculture industry. City agriculturist Emma Moli na said Jica has chosen the viriages of Bonuan Boduig and Lucae here as pilot areas for the project Yolanda Solelo-Fuertes, Incuses Northern Luzon

Waste burning discouraged

ANGELES CITY The garbage problem here has prompted the city government to encourage residents to dig pits at the back of their houses. for their non-biodegradable wastes

Theicity government's environmental management system division, however discourages residents from burning residual wastes and plastic materials, as the practice contributes to global warming.

Mayor Francis Nepomuceno told the residents that if they do not have backyards or spaces for pits, the wastes would be collected by the city to be. brought to materials recovery facilities and eventually to a sanitary landfill.

The city government started transporting 71 tons of residual wastes daily to the German-operated sanitary landfill in Capas, Tariac on Aug. Jun Malig, Incumen Central Luzon body found

Woman killed in grenade blast

MIDSAYAP, North Cotabato-A 36-year-old woman was killed white her year-old daughter and a relative were wounded when an unidentified man tossed a hand grenade inside their home here on Aug. 26

Rakma Lumambas died while being operated on at the Cotabato Regional and Medical Center here Lumarnbas her daughter and a relative, identified only as Fatimah, were asleep inside their house in Barangay Poblacion 2 when a man tossed the grenade in their bedroom, Supt. Chino Mamburam, Edwin O. Fernandez, Inquirer Mindanae Midsayap police chief, saxt.

2 motorcycle riders killed

SULTAN KUDARAT, SHAR FF KABUNSJAN-Two motorcycle-riding men were killed in an accident along the national highway here on Aug. 26.

Provincia police chief Supt Ismael Altisaid Torete Minandang, 18 and Montasir Salibo, 19, were thrown off and their heads smashed on a pavement in Barangay Salimbao here when they hit an approaching vehicle while trying to overtake another.

The motorcycle, an XRM Honda model, skidded in the driver's attempt to evade the approaching vehicle, said Ali.

The victims, who suffered serious head injuries, weren't wearing helmets. Authorities at the Colabato Regional and Medical Center said the victims suf-Charlie C. Seriase, Incurren Mindaneo fered fractured skulls and broken ribs.

Army recovers firearms

SAN PABLO CITY-Troops from the 74th Infantry Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division raided the house of Juanito Mendoza, alias Macky, former communist guerrilia leader based in Bondoc Pen risula. Quezon and believed to be the security aide of NPA spokesperson Ka Roger Rosal.

Mendoza eluded arrest but Army soldlers found a cai. 22 rifle with scope, a shotgun, a 9 mm pistor, two night vision goggies, a telescope

and biasting caps in his house Mendoza has severa- outstanding warrants of arrest

Romyto Ponte, Inquirer Southern Lazon

MILF says 3 Cabinet men waylaid peace talks

COTABATO CITY-THE MORO Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) has accused three Cabinet officials of the Arroyo administration of waytaying the peace process.

A deadlock in the peace talks has been going on for about a year now after both sides disagreed on the issue of ancestral

Recently, the Malaysian government, which has been acting as third party facilitator, has called on the government to resume the stalled peace talks

Muhammad Ameen, chair of the MILF secretariat, said he doubts if President Macapagal-Arroyo was really determined to leave behind a legacy of peace in Mandanao by signing a peace pact with the MILF that is aimed to address the Bangsamoro problem.

Ameen said there are many interested groups in and out of Malacañang who are out to make the Mindanao peace process a failure.

Describing them as the "hawks" in the Arroyo administranson, Ameen named Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, Intenor and Local Government Secretary Ronaldo Puno and National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales as among the "spoilers."

"They set the unknown directions of the GRP-MILF peace process," Ameen said in a statement.

He recalled that in 2003, peace advocates in Mindanao had an audience with Ms Arroyo



A BATTALION of Marines disembark upon their arrival at the Lamitan Port in Basilan from their LST (Landing Ship Transport).

m Malacanang. There was an empasse in the peace process and to do the taiking the NGOs and peace advocates "Gava rin ng MNLE paikutin have tobbied Malacañang to resume the stalled peace talks.

Ameen said during the meeting, the President cailed for Ermita to sit beside her.

One of the questions raised to the President was on the update of the peace talks.

The President did not answer the question but asked Ermita

lang natin ang MILF (Like the MNLF, we'll just trick the MILF)," Ameen said, quoting one of the peace advocates as teiling him

Ameen did not say what was the role of Puno and Gonzales in the peace process.

With this premise, Ameen said he believed Ms Arroyo was not determined to ,nk the peace accord with the MILF three years into her last day in Malacañang.

A member of the MILF peace panel said they are puzzied with what is bothering Malacañang that it has been delaying the peace process

Government and MILF negotiators met in Malaysia on Aug. 27 not to discuss the issue of ancestral domain to be included in the proposed Bangsamoro Juridical Entity but on the extension of services of international peace observers in Mindanao

There was no discussion on when the peace talks would resume after they were stopped in September last year.

They, however, agreed to continue searching for common grounds for the resumption of

peace talks. Last weekend, MILF chief Al

Haj Murad Ebrahim, told Mashms to be patient and remain hardworking

"As our struggle enters its 35th year, the more we persevere and strive further to sure that we consolidate the MILF and to confront any obstacle along the route to victory," Murad told a group of Muslim religious preachers.

"If you live to see the fruit of your sacrifices, that is victory, but if you die that is another victory," he said Edwin O. Fernandes, Inquirer Mindanao

Drowned boy's

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna-The body of a Grade 3 student was recovered in Gen. Trias, Cavite on Wednesday, a day after he was reported mussing while swimming in a river.

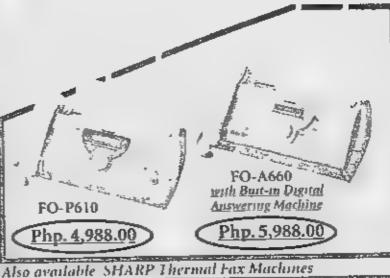
Senior Supt. Fidel Posadas, Cavite police director, identified the victim as Daniel Serbano, 10, a resident of Barongay Manggahan of the said town.

Posadas said residents saw the body of Serbano floating along a river at the back of New Cavite Industrial City factory, just a few meters from the victim's house, at around 8:30 a.m.

He said the bloated body was already decomposing when it was retrieved from the river Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

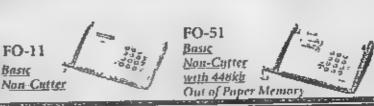


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THE JLV Prawn Farm

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Tanagan, Calatagan,

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death of mangrove

stands in the area.

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TOUIRER Southern Luzon Editor fun Bandayrel Bureout Chief Floreño G. Solmirano

Calatagan mangroves under threat

By Marion Alexander Luistro Calatagan, Batangas

O WHO'S KILLING THE MANgroves of scenic Calatagan?

The third-class municipality (annual income: P21 million-P27 million) in Batangas that has been declared a marine reserve, is facing new threats, according to small fishermen.

Ruperto Aleroza, advocacy officer of the Samahan ng Malihit na mga Mangingisda sa Calatagan, said the project expansion of JLV Prawn Farm in Barangay Tanagan would destroy the remaining mangroves in the area and the livelihood of thousands of fishermen.

JLV Prawn Parm, a project of lawyer Juan Lorenzo Vergara, has been constructing fishponds, pumping stations, laboratory building, laborers' quarters, a house and a wharf within an eight-hectare land in Tanagan.

"Calatagan is a marine reserve which is still under the process of rehabilitation. Sadly, we

have been planting mangroves but a project would only wipe them out," said Aleroza

The prawn farm's manager, Sergio Magbanua, has denied the allegations. "We never cut the mangroves because we know it is illegal. I don't know what caused the death

of the mangroves but we did not kill them." He added that the farm even helped by planting 30,000 mangroves in the sea.

Dialogue

Small fishermen asked Gov. Vilma Santos-Recto in a dialogue on Aug. 29 to help them protect the seas and convince Environment Secretary Joselito Atienza to pursue charges against those found violating the law.

The town has 48,001 hectares of municipal waters and 19 of its 25 villages are coastal areas, according to Jessie de los Reyes, chair of the Caratagan Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council.

About 66.5 percent of the reefs are classified as good corals with Hawksbill turties known to nest at the Pagapas Bay, he said. Dolphins are usually sighted in the area.

"Development projects, however, are now threatening these species and the town's rich natural resources," he said.

De los Reyes said the livelihood of at least 3,000 families, who earn from the sale of fish, seashells, sea cucumbers, starfish, sea urchins and other marine creatures, would suffer as a result of the destruction of mangroves.

ECC document

Magbanua said the farm's quarrying activities were covered by an environmental compliance certificate (ECC) issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. He denied that the new roads had destroyed the mangroves



LIFELESS mangrove trees inside the JLV Prawn Farm in Barangay Tanagan, Calatagan town. PHOTOS BY MARLON LUISTRO

The farm was "totally compliant of laws," he added, claiming that it only developed the eight-hectare land area covered by the project's ECC.

Aleroza confirmed that the farm was able to obtain an ECC from the DENR's regional Environmental Management Bureau on

In a letter sent to DENR regional executive director Eduardo Principe on Aug. 17, the provincial environment and natural resources officer, Maximo Soriano, recommended the temporary suspension of the ECC pending resolution of certain issues, including claims that "the development project caused the death of mangrove stands."

Josefa Epelonga, 44, of Barangay Tanagan, who earns P300 daily from selling seashells, said several mangroves had died and caused the shells to move to another habitat.

"We cannot even get close to the sea because we are being reprimanded by the farm," she said, adding that she had to travel to far areas just to be able to gather seashells.

Magbanua behed Epelonga's claims that the farm was denying small fishermen access to the sea. "Those people are always

saying we are destroying the mangroves, but I challenge them to come here personally and check what we are doing," he said.

Reclamation project

Another issue is the reclamation project of businessman Raymond Moreno at the Pagapas Bay, which the small fishermen said had destroyed corals and seagrass beds in the bay. The DENR has already issued two notices of violations against the project.

Then Environment Secretary Michael Defensor directed the dismanting of the reclaimed access road in June 2005, but this was stopped by a court when it issued a prelimmary injunction order.

Environmental lawyer Maria Paz Luna said criminal charges of violations of the Water Code could still be filed by the DENR against Moreno for allegedly blocking the entry of water to the mangroves. Santos could help them convince the DENR secretary to file the case, she said.

During her dialogue with the small fishermen, Governor Santos said she would study the issues raised by the fishermen but did not promise a quick solution.

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Young inventor helps builders reduce costs

By Fernan Gianan Virac, Catanduanes

THE CAPITAL TOWN OF THE storm-tossed island-province of Catanduanes is home to a young inventor who holds the patent for a cost-saving construction material that is now being used by local contractors and home builders.

Boxes of the prefabricated galvanized from tie wire invented by 22-year-old Dexter Teope are being sold in hardware stores at P85 per rdle, saving construction companies or house owners more than 20 percent in labor costs.

In fact, the Japanese contractor of the multimillion-peso Gogon bridge project has indicated interest in purchasing the prefab tie wires

Time-saving

What is now a promising business for Teope began as a worm of an idea when he was a 12-year-old Grade 6 student and playing at their neighbor's house then being constructed "I wondered why it took so long for a worker to cut and bend the tie wire when it could have been sold as a ready-made material," he reveals.

He kept the idea at the back of his mind for the next several years, graduating from the Caranduanes Colleges as a computer technician. He went to Makati City to work as a waiter at Shangri-la Hotel.

After a year, Teope returned and began putting his ideas on paper-some simple and others so complicated that it required many moving parts. In January 2005, he finally applied for a parent of his invention at the Intellectual Property Office, paying a total of P2,500 in fees.

Patent

On Nov. 18, 2006, he got Patent No. 2-2005-000060 for his prefabricated tie wire and began making a simple machine to make his product. He had already perfected a machine-built from P300 worth of small pipes, bearings and tire spokes-in Manila when he ventured to a 35-story condominium being constructed on España Avenue.

His sales pitch to the contractor worked so well that he was asked to deliver 10 tons of tie wire right then and there. Stunned by



DEXTER Teope, 22, inventor of the prefabricated galvanized iron tie wire,

the offer, he regretfully told the buyer that he had only 10 kilos available.

Still, he took as a great inspiration from the contractor's advice to him that he must come back if he already had 10 tons.

Teope went back to Virac and had three more of the machines fabricated. He never went back to Manila to deliver the 10 tons, he decided to start small so he could see his

business grow. Today, his GT Manufacturing employs five households in Barangay Rawis, with mothers and even disabled youth cutting tie wire to

standard lengths while watching TV at night. At his parents' house, Teope employs four machine operators and one packer, who altogether produce 140 kilos daily. Each box of 20 kilo-packs is sold for P75 per kilo to hardware stores, which sell them for P80 on retail

The inventor's father Osias, 63, a retired school principal, says his son—the middle of three children-could have inherited his inventive streak from his grandfather Telesfore, who did not finish schooling but was good at mathematics.

Among his other ideas-about 80 in aland carefully drawn on paper-are a seatbelt harness for tricycle drivers, a multiclrcuit connector to replace the junction box in electrical systems, and a head massager built from discarded electric fan covers.

Business, FVR, Enrile, Ermita on Erap verdict

From page At

criminals and a short list of big fish who are punished for wrongdoing," he said.

According to Del Castillo, the business community expects a verdict of conviction and corresponding punishment for Estrada, who is under house arrest at his vacation estate in Tanay,

"Confidence will be affected," he said of the prospect of an acquittal or a pardon.

Nonetheless, the business community is focused on the economic fundamentals and will be unnerved only if the security situation deteriorates as · a result of the Sandiganbayan decision, whatever it may be, De. Castillo said.

No choice

In Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile's opinion, Estrada has no choice but to accept a presidential pardon should the antigraft court convict him of plunder.

A pardon is not for Estrada to reject because when the President grants it, she can immediately pull out the guards from his vacation estate, according to Enrile.

The senator expressed doubt that a verdict of acquittal would again raise ques-Arroyo administration.

He pointed out that Estrada's term had already run its course and that Ms Arroyo was serving a new term. Thus, he said, there was no reason for Ms Arroyo to be insecure about her term

Sen. Jinggoy Estrada, the SWS survey ousted President's eldest son, said there was no reason for cials should wait for the Ms Arroyo to fear any payback court's verdict before making from his father should the ver- such an offer d et be an acquittal

Erap seeks regular pass to be with dying ma

By Jocelyn R. Uy

JOSEPH ESTRADA HAS asked the Sandiganbayan to grant him a pass to make regular visits to his ailing mother at the San Juan Medical Cen-

Through his lawyer, former Sen. Rene Saguisag, Estrada yesterday said his request was tronic considering that judgment day was near but he had to be at his 102-year-old mother's bedside, as advised by the family doctor

The verdict on Estrada's plunder case is expected to be issued on or before Sept. 14, unless the justices of the antigraft court's Special Division any given time" after three request the Supreme Court for an extension.

Saguisag presented a letter sent him by Dr. Lorenzo Hocson stating that the condition and hypertension. of Estrada's mother, Mary Ejercato, could "deteriorate at



ESTRADA

surgical procedures.

Ejercito has been confined at the hospital since Aug. 10 for treatment of pneumonia

Hocson said Ejercito had endured the insertion of a

feeding tube and a procedure to monitor the pressure of blood in the heart.

At any time

"As a lay person, without sounding morbid, we take this to mean that the Good Lord may call her any time," Saguisag said in a three-page motion filed with the Sandiganbayan's Special Division.

In seeking the court's permission to make regular visits to his mother. Estrada also acknowledged the difficulties of trips to and from his vacation estate in Tanay, Rizal, where he is being detained.

"We, therefore, seek guidance from the doctor, the prosecution and the police, as to what may be agreed upon for recommendation and submission to this court so that [Estrada] may regularly see his mother in the weeks ahead ..." part of the motion read.

that would destabilize ourselves because, of course, economic progress can only happen in a stable political environment. Anything that will cause destabilization even in the minds of our people should be avoided."

Ermita said he expected Estrada to be "a responsible citizen."

"Considering that he was President, and knowing him, I think he knows what's good for our people..." the executive secretary said

'He knows better'

Ermita said he could not offer anything in exchange for Estrada's cooperation in suppressing street protests.

"The former President is definitely much better than I Secretary Ronaldo Puno, Ms am. He became President, I'm only where I am, so I don't think that I can advise him on anything. He definitely knows better than what I might know, as far as his conduct is concerned," Ermita said, adding:

"But I know that the reason he's popular is that as a political leader, he wants the welfare of the majority of our people, rather than just perends, to [paramount]. To that extent, I think former President Estrada would know how to conduct himself, especially in light of all these rumors of what might happen as a result of the verdict, whatever the verdict might be "

'Exchange of views'

National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales on Tuesday said that he had a lunch meeting last week with Estrada but that it was a mere "exchange of views."

Also on Tuesday, Interior Arroyo's newly appointed political adviser, said a pardon for Estrada in the event of a conviction was not farfetched. Reports from Norman Bordadora, Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Cynthia D. Baland and Michael Lim Ubac

PLUS AKITA, SEOUL AND TOKYO tions on the legitimacy of the other agenda," the younger showing that most residents public to remain calm, and for Estrada partisans to observe of Mega Manila were in favor 6 Days the rule of law. of a pardon for Estrada. "As a good citizen and espe-DEPARTURE DATE, OCTOBER 17, 2007 "You wait for the court," he

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Estrada said

On the other hand, former President Fidel Ramos told the Inquirer on Tuesday that all talk about a pardon for Estrada in case of a conviction was premature

He said government offi-

Ramos shook his head at "We are only out to clear the mention of the recent So-

'Consider the people'

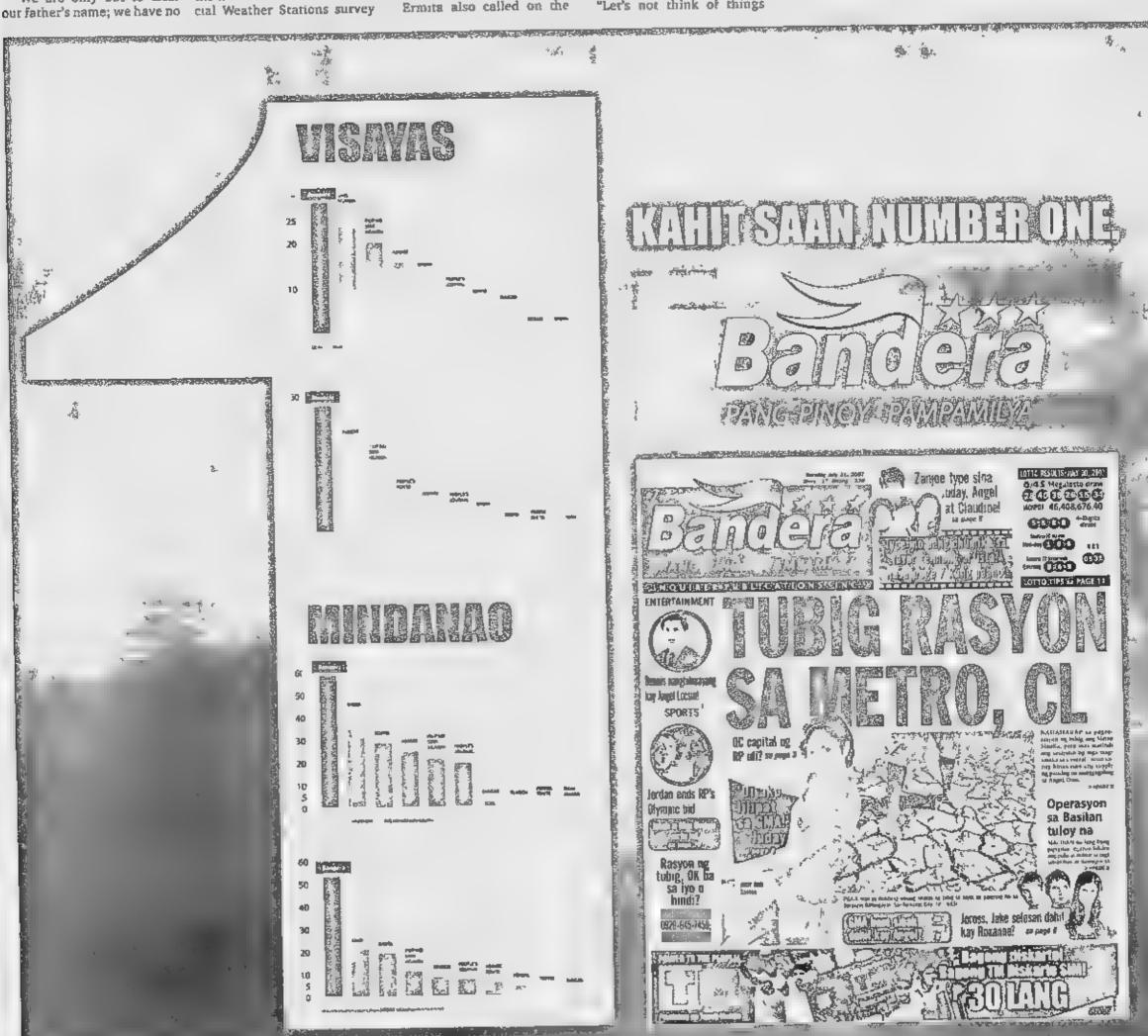
At a press conference in Malacañang, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said the Sandiganbayan's verdict could be used by certain quarters to sow chaos and instabil ity, and that it was up to Estrada to ease the tense political atmosphere

Ermita also called on the

cially as a public official, all I can say is if my advice is sought [by Estrada]-and for that matter, I'm saying it right now-the best option would be really to consider the conditions of the greater majority of our people," Ermita said

Asked whether he would advise Estrada to "shun any offer to do an Edsa IV after his verdict," Ermita said:

"Let's not think of things



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Ex-spy chief called to Senate probe

VICE ADMIRAL TIRSO DANGA, FORMER WEST- supposedly tapped into the Monday. ern Command chief, has been asked to appear before the Senate investigation into the "Hello Garci" wiretapping scandal, which begins on Friday.

However, Danga will have to ecutive Order No. 464 and porters yesterday. Memorandum Circular 108, said Armed Forces spokesper-

"We will seek clearance from seek approva. from President the Chief Executive for the at-Macapagal-Arroyo to appear at tendance of any officers in any the hearing, as required by Ex- such hearing," Bacarro told re-

Danga was the head of the In-

phone conversations of Ms Arroyo and heard her ask former election commissioner Virgilio Garcillano about "the additional 1 million votes" for her in the 2004 elections.

Danga, who retires on Sept. 24, reinquished his post as the chief of the Wescom in Palawan - the military officers mentioned

The AFP's Office of Legisla-

Bacarro said the OLA will draft a letter to the President in collaboration with the Judge Advocate General (Jago). The letter will be signed by AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr.

Esperon himself was among in the controversial Garci tapes Bacarro resterated that while

that the high court deemed le- appearance of officials of the

One of these was the President's right to ban executive officials from appearing during the question hour in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Generals, flag officers and other officers of the Armed Forces are among officials cov-

Memorandum Circular 108

there are certain provisions in it contains the guidelines on the executive department before Congress. It states that all invitations and pertinent documents be forwarded to the President through the Executive Secretary.

The President will then consider whether the subject matter of the inquiry is in aid of legislation or falls within the scope of executive privilege, according to the circular. Nikko Dizon



Executive privilege can block probe, says Miriam

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

EVEN WITHOUT EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 464, President Macapagal-Arroyo can still block Cabinet members' and top military officials' appearing before a Senate investigation into the "Hello Garci" wiretapping scandal by invoking her constitutional right to executive privilege

The Supreme Court merely invalidated EO 464. It never invalidated the constitutionally based doctrine of executive privilege," said Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago. a constitutional law expert.

Santiago defined executive privilege as the President's power to withhold information on state secrets covering diplomatic, military, foreign relations and other sensitive national security is-

"Executive privilege is not mentioned in the Philippine or US Constitutions, but it is accepted as constitutional Both countries have applied the doctrine in a line of cases," she said in a privilege speech.

Revisiting 'Helio Garci'

The Senate this week decided to revisit the Hello Garci controversy, assigning the committees on defense, accountability and constitutional amendments and revision of codes and laws to conduct a

The could set up another Senate showdown with Malacañang as Cabinet officials and military officials are likely to be summoned to testify on the alleged wiretapping operation by the Armed Forces intelligence services during the 2004 elections

Santiago said the Supreme Court, in its Senate vs Ermita decision, "merely declared EO 464 as invalid because it made only an implicit claim of executive

That fault can be corrected by this time making "a formal, explicit claim of privilege," the senator said.

Another reason the high court struck down EO 464 was that it was a general or blanket prohibition on all Cabinet members and other high officials from testifying in

That fault could also be corrected by specifying the facts which make the information a confidential state secret for the particular official," Santiago said

Round 2

Santiago said that in the later case of Gudani vs Senga in 2006, the Supreme Court ruled that to prevent military officials from testifying in Congress, the President does not even have to claim executive privilege because she is already the Commander in Chief.

"If the President is adamant, her people could be cited for contempt, but it is possi ble that the corresponding warrant of ar rest may not be served, since the president has the entire Armed Forces behind her, Santiago said.

But the senator did not discount the possibility of a second round of a legal battle at the Supreme Court between Malacañang and the Senate on the issue of congressional access to executive branch officials

"Let's wait for developments. If it cannot be helped, maybe we'll see Senate versus Ermita Part 2," she said.

Santlago and other administration senators have warned their colleagues of the legal implications of possessing and playing information that had been illegally obtained such as the private conversation between the President and former election commissioner Virgilio Garcillano.





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DID YOU KNOW

AMERICAN architect Daniel Burnham was born on Sept. 4, 1846 in New York. During the American occupation of the Philippines, he designed the cities of Marilla and Baguio, which now has a park named after him.

In his 1905 proposal for Manila, Burnham suggested the development of waterways for transportation, the construction of parks and the provision for summer resorts. His plans for the city, however, were not fully implemented. Cyrll L. Bonabente, Inquirer Research

UP college drops stude as council prexy

Expulsion from university looms for frat recruiter of alleged hazing victim "We want to issue a very wise calls for the highest degree the universities, colleges and

By Jeannette I. Andrade, Margaux C. Ortiz, Tj Burgonio and Norman Bordadora

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES NATIONAL College of Public Administration and Governance yesterday stripped Ariel Paolo Ante, the president of its student council, of his position and recommended his expulsion from the university for his suspected involvement in the hazing death of Cris Anthony

Dean Alex Brillantes Jr., the faculty council asked UP authorities "to exhaust all legal and administrative means to expel Mr. Ante from the university."

The resolution was reached after the faculty council, headed by Brillantes, withdrew its recognition of Ante as chair of the NCPAG student council for loss of confidence and derelic-

"Mr. Ante has failed to exercise principled and moral leader-

In an order signed by NCPAG ship by his absence during the critical days after the death of an NCPAG student, by his inability to uphold student welfare, by his failure to mobilize the NCPAG Student Council to collectively respond to the death of a student council official, and by his deafening silence and unexplained absence," the NCPAG resolution

> The council condemns this behavior as not only irresponsible but also as an obstruction of justice," it added.

Mendez, like Ante, was an was also the college representative to the UP Student Council.

Mendez was brought to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Ouezon City on Aug. 27 where he was pronounced dead on arrival. An autopsy report revealed that he had been beaten up badly, bolstering initial suspicions that his death could have resulted from intuation rites allexedly conducted by the Sigma Rho fraternity for neophytes.

Ante, a Sigma Rho member, reportedly recruited Mendez to join the fraternity.

No contact

Brillantes said Ante had not made any effort to contact or talk to them since news about Mendez's death broke out

Once expelled, Ante would not be able to enroll in any UP campus nationwide, he added.

NCPAG student and a member of strong statement that violence is of vigilance among university the college's student council. He not tolerated in our university," Brillantes said.

He told the INQUIRER that Ante had been recommended for suspension before for his alleged involvement in a fraternity rumble last July.

"That recommendation has not been carried out because we wanted to afford him due process. But this time, we sought legal advice and we were given the go-ahead," the dean said.

The UP Alumni Association, meanwhile, has offered its help to any person who may have vital information that could lead to the arrest of the people responsible for the death of

"The senseless loss of life of Cris Mendez, who held much promise for his family and this nation, brings to the fore the need for a strict implementation of the Anti-Hazing Law It like-

authorities, members of the faculty and the studentry so that illegal activities of fraternities and sorurities may be stopped or prevented effectively," the UPAA board of directors said in a state-

They also called on all fraternines and sororities and other student organizations to "stop, condemn and never countenance violence and other barbaric activities" and to "adhere to the rule of law and civil ordez"

Fraternines in universities thrive on the "generous support" of influential alumni and violence continues because it's part of a fraternity's unspoken standard, activist priest Fr. Robert

schools is the Frat Alumni. These are the graduates who have left the university and now occupy any form of violence and other rather influential and prestigious positions in society," he said in a statement issued from

"Many of these older men claiming to be gentlemen are quite dangerous. The fraternity officers keep close ties with them and are quite willing and happy to do so because of the generous support that consequently flows," said Reyes, who served as UP parish priest from 1996 to

A prominent member of the Sigma Rho Fraternity, meanwhile, said that there was still no proof that the organization was involved in Mendez's death.

There is no concrete evidence that the death of the UP student was caused by the fraternity's initiation rites," Boilo Working within and beyond Vice Gov. Rolex Suplico said.

Doc, fratmen in alleged hazing case no-shows at NBI

By Tina G. Santos

THE DOCTOR WHO BROUGHT suspected hazing victim Cris Anthony Mendez to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center was a no-show at the National Bureau of Investigation yester-

Dr. Francisco Cruz Jr. assistant chief of the VMMC opthalmology department had given his assurance to the National Bureau of Investigation that he would appear at the bureau after he was served with a subpoens the other day.

Instead, Cruz sent his lawyer, Rafael Armovit, to the NBI.

"The doctor could not make it today so I came in his behalf. We will be submitting his statement to the NBI. If you want to know anything, ask the NBI," he told reporters shortly after he met briefly with Romulo Asis, chief of the NBI Anti Terrorism Division, who was tasked to handle

the case. "He has a right to privacy," Armovit said when asked why his client did not show up. He clarified, however, that Cruz was not hiding from authori-

Asis said he expects Cruz to submit his affidavit to the bu-





DR. DAPHNE Gascon (left), who examined hazing victim Cris Anthony Mendez when he was brought to the Veterans Memorial Center, arrives at the National Bureau of Investigation with her lawyer as Rafael Armovit (right), the counted of another VMMC doctor; Dr. Francisco Cruz jr., talks to reporters. Cruz was the one who took Mendez to the hospital.

before the NBI," he added.

Also at the bureau yesterday was Dr. Daphne Gascon, the VMMC doctor who examined to the hospital by Cruz.

Accompanied by her lawyer, Sususco said Preddie Lilagan, Gascon subbut refused to answer questions from the media.

Special Investigator III Roger LA Sususco of the NBi ATD said reau within the week. "He Gascon confirmed that she was needs to swear to his statement - the one who declared Mendez

"She said that she noticed Mendez had several hematoma all over his body—in the arms, Mendez when he was brought legs and feet. She did not notice any open wound, though,"

Asis explained that Gascon's mitted a statement to the NBI statement was significant as it corroborated VMMC security guard Jonathan Garduce's claim that it was Cruz who took Mendes to the hospital at

around 1 a.m. last Aug. 27. "She said she even asked

Cruz where he found Mendez and Cruz reportedly answered that the victim was only brought to him," Sususco said.

Cruz and Gascon were among several people subpoenaed by the NBI to shed light on the death of Mendez, a student of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

Those who did not show up at the bureau yesterday included Andoni Santos, said to be a member of the Sigma Rho fratermity, the group Mendez re-

portedly joined as a neophyte before his death; Ariel Paolo Ante, the National College of Public Administration and Governance student council chair and fraternity member who was reportedly the last to be seen with Mendez when he was still

ahve. "We will again summon them to appear on Friday," Asis said, adding that they would also invite four other people, including Raul Grapilon, the Sigma Rho fraternity president.

Pasig City brings tax claim to SC

By Kristine L. Alave

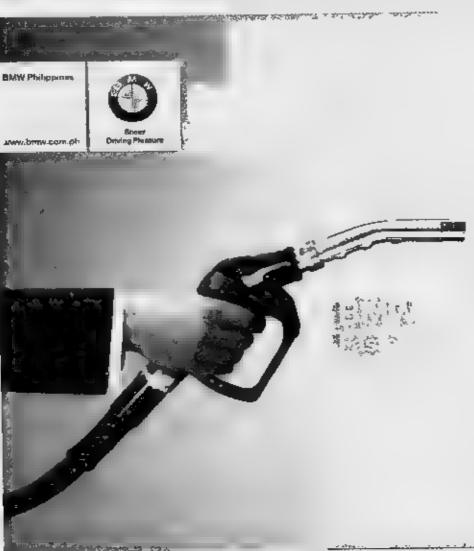
THE PASIG CITY GOVERNment will not back down from its fight to collect P435 million in franchise tax from the Manula Electric Co.

Mayor Robert Eusebio yesterday said the city government's legal team was preparing to elevate the case to the Supreme

On Aug. 28, the Court of Appeals' 10th Division dismissed the Pasig City government's plea to collect P435 million from Meralco, representing the franchise tax the power firm supposedly owed the city from 1996 to 1999

The appellate court's decision reversed and set aside the ruling of the Pasig City Regional Trial Court-Branch 70 which earlier affirmed the vandity of the city government's demand for payment.

According to the appellate court, Pasig has no authority to legally assess and collect a franchise tax from Meralco because it did not enact an ordinance authorizing it to do so.





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Stop pampering illegal settlers, says MMDA's Fernando

By Allison W. Lopez and Kristine L Alavo

ILLEGAL SETTLERS SHOULD NOT BE rewarded with new houses to discourage other people from following suit.

"it's as if we are rewarding people who squat. So we will see to it that only those who are qualified will be relocated," Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando told reporters yester-

in Marula.

The MMDA dismantled shapties near waterways in Makati and Pasay last week as part of their flood control oper-

Residents living near rivers and creeks have been blamed for floods that occur in the area during a heavy downpour because they reportedly clog the waterways with garbage.

Pernando said that if illegal

day at the Meet the Press Forum settlers are not rewarded with relocation sites, this would discourage other people from following their example

According to him, the MM-DA's "Baak Probinsya" program, which offers fare money to illegal settlers who volunteer to go home to their provinces, was still ongoing as it was also meant to counter a study that by 2020, 80 percent of people worldwide would be living in

Pernando said they plan to remove obstructions on 3,000 kilometers of roads in Metro Mansla to improve traffic flow.

The "Metro Clear Roads" project, he said, is aimed at opening more streets for the use of motorists to help solve the perennial traffic problem.

"We have about 5,000 km of roads in Metro Manila but only 2,000 km are being used. Most of these are turned into basketchines on street, said Fernan-buses from using them.

He added that the Metro Manua Council, composed of 17 city mayors, including his known opponent. Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, has pledged to help in the project's imple-

To prevent portions of Edsa from being converted into parking areas, Fernando said the

Apart from clearing sewers, ball courts, you/can even see MMDA would install barriers on furniture and washing ma- sidewalks to prevent cars and

"We are also elevating the sidewalks on Edsa to prevent vehicles from parking on them," he said

Discipline, added Fernando, should be instilled among motorists, especially among bus drivers who take a long time maneuvering their vehicles from their garages on their way to Edsa.

Mar Roxas' early campaigning

WHAT ARE AGENTS OF THE NAtional Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) doing at the piers?

The NICA, the country's counterpart of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), is supposed to be interpreting reports collated from the government's various intelligence agencies and units.

Its main job is purely intelligence gathering, not going after criminals or smugglers.

But lately, NICA agents have allegedly been interfering in purely customs matters such as ordering the intelligence arm of the Bureau of Customs to seize cargoes containing highly dutiable goods.

My sources at the piers say that these agents, led by a guy with a Chanese-sounding surname, have been extorting money from brokers who facilitate the release from customs of valuable cargo.

NICA agents reportedly demand P5,000 for each container that comes out of the South Harbor and the Manila International Container Port, according to my spies.

These cornipt NICA agents have arrogated anto themselves the job of the Presidential Anti-

ON TARGET Ramon

Smuggling Group (PASG) that, so far, has kept its nose relatively clean, my sources said

Why "relatively clean?" Because Undersecretary Antonio Villar, PASG chief, immediately grounds subordinates on mere suspicion they are conniving with smugglers.

Will somebody tell Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas II the 2010 presidential election is still three years down the road?

He's much too early in the campaign trail. Masyadong nagmamadali, making him look like an eager-beaver kid.

Just so voters will not forget him, Roxas went to visit the public market in Baguio City to apparently remind market-goers and vendors that he's still "Mr. Palengke."

The grandson and name-

dent Manuel Roxas has invited two warring TV comedianhosts, Willie Revillame and Joey de Leon, to the august halls of the Senate.

The purported reason for the invitation is to shed light on the supposedly P2-million "Wowowee" game show scan-

Aw c'mon, Mr. Senator, we know the real reason. Only those who were born yesterday wouldn't know your reason for initiating the Senate investigation of the alleged game-show scandal. Publicity mileage.

When are unexpected disaster strikes your home, like a member of the family having a stroke, what do you do?

You would know all the necessary steps to take before rushing your victim to the nearest hospital if you studied first aid at the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC).

Sept 8, Saturday, is World First Aid Day. The rest of the month is National First Aid Month

sake of the illustrious Presi- will come in handy when you stumble upon a disaster and victims need immediate medical attention to survive.

If you're interested in learning first aid, call up telephone number 527 0000, local 128 or 129, or 527-9979, if you're in Manila.

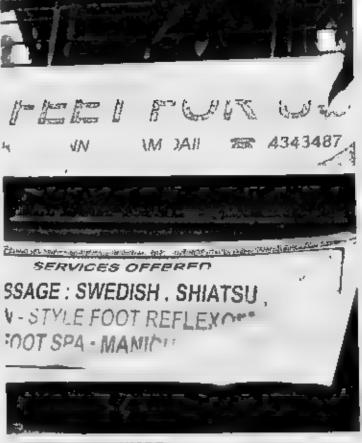
You can inquire from your local Red Cross chapter if you're outside Manila

Sen. Dick Gordon, PNRC chair, has set an ambitious goal: Having at least one member of every household learn first aid and know what to do in case of calamity.

That's one in every four persons (assuming there are four members in every family) being a Red Cross volunteer.

If you think that goal is unattainable, you don't know Dick Gordon.

As first chair of the government agency that runs the Subic Freeport, Gordon was able to convince his constituents in Olongapo City and Zambales to work as volunteers without pay until the Your knowledge of first aid Presport became self-sufficient.



BEST FOOT FORWARD

A foot spa at Maginhawa Street, UP Village In Quezon City, pampers its clientels with a variety of services. AUGUST DE LACRUZ

Father, son caught with illegal catch from Taguig City fishpen

By Julie M. Aurelio

A FISHERMAN AND HIS SON fishpen who alleged that the said SPO3 Eduardo Cabria,

pair stole the catch worth at case investigator. least P375,000.

Enrique Paran was able to were caught yesterday with a escape but his son, Randy, 19, net full of bangus (milkfish) by was caught redhanded with the caretaker of a Taguig City the milkfish inside his boat,

Pishpen owner Generazeth Capistrano said he was told about the incident a few hours after his caretaker caught the

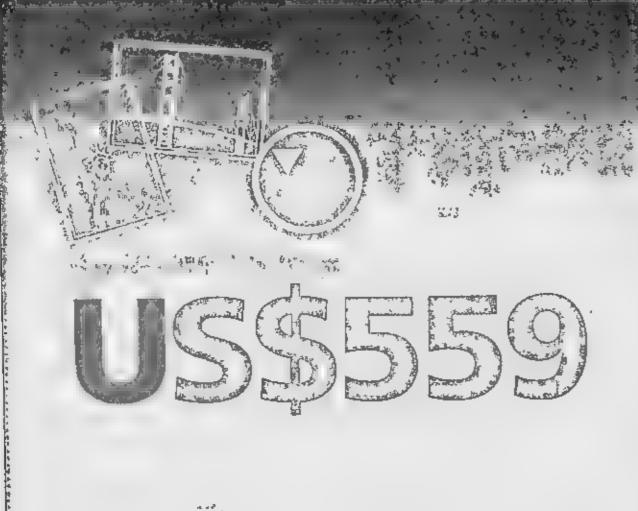
at around 12:30 a.m. yesterday, the Parans were seen allegedly raiding the Capistrano fishpen

The fishpen is located along the Taguig City portion of Lagu-An investigation showed that na Lake, where many other fish boat which they apparently against the two suspects.

Rene Olvida, caretaker of the fishpen told police that he was able to fiee from his capcaught the Parans, residents tor of Napindan, in the act of

The elder Paran, however,

Police are preparing to file loading the fish on board a charges of qualified theft



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Student killed for not giving up phone

By Tima G. Santos

AN 18-YEAR-OLD snident who refused to give up his cell phone was shot and killed by a thief in Tondo, Manila the other night.

Paul Andrew Magionzo, a resident of Dandan Street in Tondo, was pronounced dead on arrival at the Mary Johnston Hospital gunshot 8 wound in the back. Police are looking

for the suspect, identified as Ernesto Mata Jr. alias JR, who fled after the shooting.

Investigation showed that the incident happened at 11:15 p.m. near the suspect's house on Mata Street, also in Tondo.

The victim, accompanied by a friend identified only as a certain Alejandro, was texting on his ceil phone when they passed by Mata.

Police said the suddenly suspect grabbed the victim's cell phone but the latter was able to hold on tightly to it as he tried to run

prompted This the suspect to pull out a gun and shoot the vicum, hitting him in the back, police added, citing the testimony of witnesses.

METROBRIEFS

100 people lose homes in Antipolo fire

ABOUT 100 people were left homeless when a fire guited a cluster of houses in Antipolo City at dawn yesterday. According to the fire department's report, the blaze started at 4:15 a.m. in a house owned by the Okinoko family In Munting Dilaw village and quickly spread to other shantles, which were mostly made of wood. Help did not arrive immediately. It took sometime for firefighters to reach the site since they got lost on their way to the village. FO3 Gary Cantilion said the fire was caused by an unattended mosquito coll, which was placed near combustible materials. He said damage to the property was placed between P300,000 and P400,000. No one was injured or killed in the biaze. Cantillon said the displaced families were evacuated to the barangay half and health center.

Kristina L. Alave

Man kills wife who tried to leave him

A 60-YEAR-OLD man shot his wife dead inside their house in Quezon City after she tried to leave him at dawn yesterday. Police promptly arrested Guillermo San Jose after their neighbors reported hearing a gunshot from the couple's house in Barangay San Agustin, Novaliches. They found his. wife, Leticia, 46, with a gunshot wound on the forehead. She had died instantly, according to a raport from the Novaliches Police station 4. It added that neighbors heard the couple arguing early in the morning with Leticia complaining about her husband's laziness and failure to land a job. San Jose, on the other hand, accused him wife of being unfaithful. The porice report said that the argument became more heated and Leticia started packing up her things. But as she was gathering her belongings, San Jose allegedly took his cal. 38 revolver and shot her in the head at 4:20 a.m. Police said they would charge him with particide.

Kenneth M. del Rosario

Women power to the rescue

AN all-women police team shot and killed a robber after he held up a call center agent in Quezon City. The police team, members of the Quezon City Rolice District Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit led by Senior Insp. Cherry Lou Donato, 23, also recovered the valuables of Michelle delos Sarttos. The victim said she had just stepped out of a restaurant in La Loma at 3:45 p.m. Monday when a man pointed a gun at her and grabbed her bag. he was about to fee when the victim screamed, catching the attention of the police team which was on patrol. The policewomen ran after the suspect but he fired on them, forcing them to fire back.

Jeannette I. Andrade

MMDA launches Traffic Radio on Sept. 24

FOR 17 hours every day, Metro Manila motorists can soon tune in to a radio station specially made for all 1.4 million of them. On Sept. 24, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority's Traffic Radio-1206 AM, a radio station devoted mostly to traffic updates and road conditions, will go on the air. The MMDA announced that it's all systems go for Traffic Radio which it dascribed as "virtually a road show with lots of news, information, public service, entertainment and with every hour, on the hour traffic reports." MMDA Chair Bayan, Fernando said the station, which signs on at 4 a.m., will serve as a conduit between the agency and listeners about traffic and road conditions, as well as reminders for the convenience and safety of road users.

Drama on breastfeeding to air over dzRH

ON Sept. 6 to 7, from 9 to 9:30 p.m., radio station drZH will feature "Bukal sa Dibdib," a drama which will tackle the benefits of breastleeding. Hosted by Cecilie Guidote Alvarez, the program, launched by the World Health Organization, Department of Health and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the United Nations Childrens Fund, is aimed at educating people about breastfeeding.

WORLD BRIEFS

Thaksin won't return to Thailand

LONDON-Former That Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is unlikely to seturn to Thailand in the near future because he fears for his safety, a statement said. A day after a Thai court issued a new set of arrest warrants for him and his wife, Thaksin's public relations company said the extled former leader was innocent of any crime. "Dr. Thaksin maintains his innocence and states that he is unlikely to be able to return to Thailand in the short term because of personal safety issues," the Bell Pottinger Group said in an e-mail statement.

Mahathir undergoes 2nd bypass

KUALA LUMPUR -- Malaysia's former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad was recovering in intensive care on Wednesday after his second heart bypass surgery, the hospital treating him said in a statement. "Doctors are happy with his rate of progress, which is as expected in post-bypass surgery." Kuala Lumpur's National Heart Institute seld-The 82-year-old former leader was admitted to the heart institute on Sunday after suffering two heart attacks in the past year and spent about five hours on the operating table on Tuesday.

US adventurer Fossett missing

RENO-US millionalre adventurer Steve Fossett, who made record-breaking solo flights by plane and bailoon, has disappeared over the Nevada desert after taking off in a small plane to scout sites for an attempt to set a world land speed record, authorities said on Tuesday. The Federal Aviation Administration said Fossett, 63, was reported missing on Monday night after taking off from a ranch in a single-engine aircraft in the morrang.

Bomb kills 11 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD—A roadside fromb rocked an eastern Baghdad Shifte neighborhood early Wednesday, killing at least 11 people and injuring 19 others when it exploded next to buses used by morning commuters, police and hospital officials said. Blood stained the ground around a small crater caused by the bomb, which went off in the predominantly Shifte neighborhood of Baladiyat just before 8 a.m. Video from Associated Press Television News showed the scane strewn with broken glass and littered with people's shoes and other

Felix batters Nicaragua

MANAGUA-A furious Hurricane Fellx on Tuesday left a trail of devastation in an arready dirtpoor area of Nicaragua, killing at least four people, including a new-born baby, and destroying 5,000



IST KOREAN ASTRONAUT

South Korean robotics expert and former amateur boxing champton Ko San will be the country's first person in space when he files on a Russian Soyuz capsule to the International Space Station next year. The 30-year-old Ko, who works at the Korea Aerospace Research Institute, beat out Yi Soo-yeon, a 29-year-old female mechanical engineer, following performance and other tests during training in

Sept.11 memorial shows WTC pieces

NEW YORK-VISITORS to the New York City considering what other artimemorial for the Sept 11, 2001, attacks will see two huge pieces of the World Trade Center's original steel facade inside a glasswalled pavilion that leads them to the museum

In new drawings released on Tuesday by the National Sept. 11 Memorial & Museum, the columns -each up to 90 feet (27.4 meters) high—that stood near the base of the twin towers rise next to a stairway that leads visitors down to the muse-

facts to showcase at the Sept. 11 memonal and where to put them. The site's original plan called for scome artifacts from the towers to be displayed aboveground. A group of Sept. 11 victims' family members had lobbied for years to have pieces of the

steel facade at street level. The columns are among more than 1,000 pieces of steel from the fallen towers in storage at a hangar at John F Kennedy International Airport.

N. Korea closer to being delisted

from the US state sponsors of terrorism list following commitments to end its nuclear weapons program, a US official said on Tuesday.

US nuclear envoy Christopher Hill told the North Koreans at a Geneva meeting at the weekend that there were only a few more issues that need to be resolved before Pyongyang's removal from the blacklist, the official said.

"My understanding is that he made it pretty clear to them that the remaining issues—at least on the terrorism list piece of this-are not that extensive," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymuty.

The official said the outstanding issues included North Korea's explanation over its alleged involvement in the 1987 midair bombing of Korean Airlines Flight 858, which killed all 115 people aboard.

"What I also am trying to get away from is the notion that this

WASHINGTON-NORTH KO- is purely going to be, 'we just derea is closer to being removed cide we are going to do it and they don't have to answer the questions about (the KAL issue) and couple of other things that got them on the list in the first place," the official said.

The State Department says in its website that North Korea, designated in January, 1988 as a state sponsor of terrorism, "is not known to have sponsored any terrorist acts since the bombing of a Korean Autines flight in 1987 "

But it noted that the fate of Japanese nationals abducted by North Korea remained an unresolved and "contentious" issue It also said that four Japanese Red Army members remained in North Korea after being linked to a jet hijacking in 1970.

Torn Casey, a US State Department spokesperson, said US government departments were working on a process to prepare for any eventual removal of North Korea from the terror list.

"I know there have been dis-

cussions about this," said Casey, though he declined to elaborate in detail. "Obviously, they involve a variety of different government agencies," he said.

Casey said that there were a series of legal standards, both for getting on and off the US terror list, adding that US laws and regulations had to be fully met before Pyongyang was removed from

the list. He hinted that any mechanism or timing for such removal could be discussed under a six-nation meeting among nuclear envoys expected this month in Beijing.

North Korean stare media reported on Monday that the United States had agreed to strike Pyongyang from its blacklist of states that sponsor terrorism during Half's talks in Geneva with his Pyongyang counterpart Kim Kye Gwan.

This claim was swiftly denied by the US side. Hill said on Tuesday that a delisting depends on further steps towards denucle-

'Chemical Ali' gets death penalty

BAGHDAD—IRAQ'S TOP COURT said on Tuesday it has confirmed the death sentence on "Chemical Ali" and two other cohorts of Saddam Hussem convicted of genocide and they will be hanged within 30 days.

The Iraq: Supreme Court has confirmed the death sentence on Ali Hassan al-Majid, Sultan Hashim al-Tai and Hussein Rashid al-Tikno," court chief Judge Aref

Shaheen told a press conference. Asked when the three would be executed, Shaheen repited "According to Iraqi law, sentence must be carried out within 30

days, no more,"

Majid, widely known as "Chemical Ali" for using poison gas against ethnic Kurds, was the executed iraqu dictator's most notorious hatchet man, Tai was his defense minister and Tilmin was armed forces deputy chief of op-

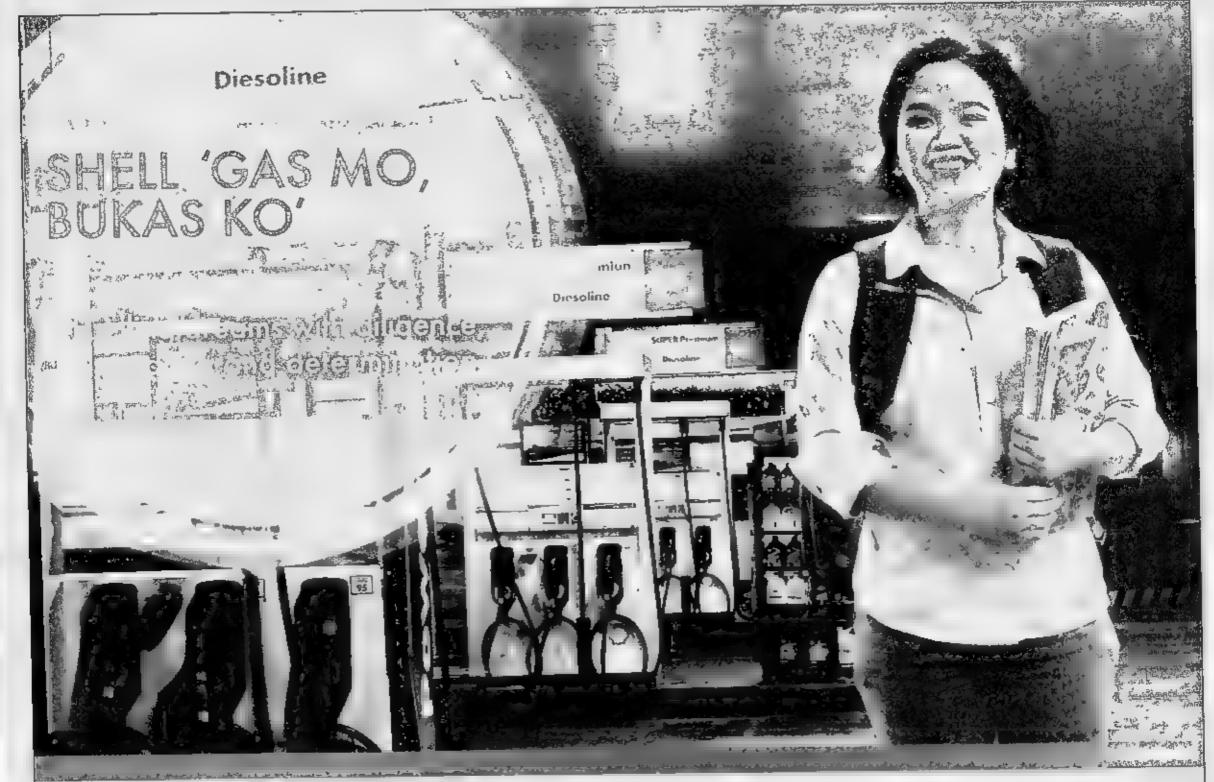
The three were sentenced to death on June 24 after being found responsible for the slaughter of thousands of Kurds in the so-called Anfal campaign of 1988.

An estimated 182,000 Kurds were killed and 4,000 villages wiped out in the brutal campaign

of bombings, mass deportation and gas attacks.

"Thousands of people were killed, displaced and disappeared," Iraqi High Tribunal chief judge Mohammed al-Oreib. al-Khaufah said after he had passed sentence in June.

"They were civilians with no weapons and nothing to do with war." Mand, 66, was the last of the six defendants to learn his fate in the Anfal case—the second trial of former Saddam cohorts on charges of crimes against humanity since the fall of the feared regime in 2003.



Ambition and determination fuel people's drive to work hard and fulfill their dreams. Shell fuels the passion of deserving gas attendants like Belen through its 'Gas Mo, Bukas Ko' program that provides free technical, vocational and alternative livelihood courses. Helping upgrade their skills gives them a chance to get ahead în life.

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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Germany, Denmark foil terror plots

3 arrested for plotting attacks on Frankfurt airport, US base

BERLIN-GERMAN AUTHORITIES SAID ON Wednesday they had arrested three suspected Islamic terrorists for allegedly plotting attacks on Frankfurt International Airport, one of Europe's busiest, along with nearby Ramstein Air Base, a key US and Nato military hub.

Prosecutors said they had arrested three suspected members of "an Islamic-motivated terrorist organization," but gave no further details. German Defense Miruster Franz Josef Jung told ARD broadcaster the three men abroad. were suspected of targeting the airport and base.

There was an immment threat," Jung said, but decimed to elaborate. The Sudwestrundfunk public broadcaster said two of the suspects had German citizenship while the third was Pak-

Prosecutors in Karlsruhe said the arrests took place on Tuesday afternoon, and that police had also carried out searches across the country. The suspects are to be brought before a judge later

German and US officials have warned of the possibility of a terrorist attack, and security meapures have been increased.

Navy Capt. Jeff Gradeck, spokesperson for the US military's European Command in Stuttgart said German authorities had contacted them concerning the alleged plot, but had no further information.

"We extend our gratitude to Germany for their efforts in protecting us," Gradeck said.

ly said in its online edition that the group has been under observation by German authorities for many months and all three men are considered radical Islamists with contacts to terror cells

Authorities decided to move in on the group after they were observed moving a stock of chemicals that could be used for making a bomb from one storehouse to another, Spiegel said.

Germany, which did not send troops to Iraq, has largely been spared terrorist attacks like the train and subway bombings in Madrid and London aithough its involvement in the attempt to stabilize Afghanistan against Islamic insurgents has led to fears it might be targeted.

In July 2006 two gas bombs were placed on commuter trains but did not explode. Officials said that attack was motivated by anger over cartoons portraying the Prophet Muhammad in a Danish newspaper. Several suspects are on trial in Lebanon, and a Lebanese man has been charged in Germany.

Chancellor Angela Merkel said in an interview released on Wednesday that German troops would remain in Afghanistan for several more years, despite re-The leading Der Spiegel week- cent serbacks in the region.



GERMAN Defense Minister Peter Struck, left, and Governor of German federal state Rhineland-Palatinate Kurt Bock, right, are seen during their visit at the US Airbase of Ramstein, southern Germany, in this file photo.

"To walk away would send the wrong signal," Merkel told N-24

Magnus Norell, at the Swedish Defense Research Agency, said while Germany's mission in Afghanistan could be a motive for a terrorist attack, a flood of other factors could also play in.

"It could be discontent with Germany, or even western Europe as a whole. It's really not that easy as to say that this (Afghanistan) would be the rea-

Opened in 1953, Ramstein is one of the best-known US Air Force bases worldwide because it serves as a major conduit for US froops and materiel moving in and out of Europe, Asia and the Middle East. It is a key transit point for injured coalition troops from Iraq and Afghanistan who are flown there to be taken to the nearby military hospital at Land-

Besides US personnel, Canadian, German, British, French, Belgian, Czech, Norwegian, Dutch

and Danish forces are also locat-

Frankfurt International Airport is Europe's third-busiest airport, handling hundreds of inand outbound flights to and from the Americas, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe, in July, a record 5.2 mulion passengers arrived or departed from the airport, a new record. In 2005, more than 52.2 million passengers came through the airport, which is also a major cargo hub.

8 suspects nabbed in Denmark

COPENHAGEN-DANISH PO lice said on Tuesday they had averted a terrorist attack with the arrest overnight of eight men allegedly linked to al-Qai da and in possession of explo-

The director general of the Danish Intelligence service PET, Jakob Scharf, said the arrests near Copenhagen had "prevented a terrorist attack." "We would describe the main suspects as militant Islamists with international contacts, including leading members of al-Qaida," Scharf told a press conference.

Scharf would not disclose any information about the possible target of the planned attack, but said there was "no direct link" to Denmark's military involvement ın İraq or Afghanıstan.

There was no connection either to the Prophet Muhammad cartoons that were printed in a Danish newspaper in September 2005 and sparked angry Muslim protests around the world, he

PET said the eight were "suspected of preparing a terrorist act with the use of explosives."

Police raided 11 homes in the early hours of Tuesday, after an in vestigation that had been underway for several months and during which PET cooperated with foreign intelligence agencies. AFP

Woman 'cured' by Mother Teresa lives in poverty Mattel makes 3rd

DANOGRAM, INDIA-AN INdian woman whose claimed miracle cure from cancer led to Mother Teresa being thrust toward sainthood has accused Catholic nuns of abandoning her to a life of misery.

The angry comments came as the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by the Albamanborn nun in the eastern Indian metropolis of Calcutta in 1950, prepared to mark Wednesday's 10th anniversary of the heroine's "I will not go to any church,"

40-year-old Manica Besta told AFP, squatting on the floor of her thatched and mud house in Danogram village, 500 kilometers from the eastern city of Calcutta, where Mother Teresa worked "I will remember Mother Tere-

sa on her death anniversary at home with my children and husband," she added.

It was Besra's alleged miracle cure from a "lumpy" tumor on Sept. 6, 1998-a year after the nun's death-that led to the Vatican clearing the way for Mother Teresa's beatification in October

Usually, the journey from death to beatification to sainthood takes decades if not centuries in the Catholic Church, which has 1.1 billion followers worldwide.

'My hut was frequented by nuns of the Missionaries of Charity before the beatification of Mother Teresa," Besra said.

"They made of lot of promises to me and assured me of financial help for my livelihood and my children's education," she claimed, adding that she was also escorted to the Vatican for the beaufication ceremony.

"After that, they forgot me," said Besra, tears welling up in her

With the small piece of family land mortgaged to a village money lender years ago, Besra said she is struggling to survive.

"I am now living in penury. My husband is sick. My children have stopped going to school as I have no money. I have to work in the fields to feed my husband and five children," said Besra, clad in a toru yellow sari.

Thousands pay homage to Mother Teresa

CALCUTTA—THOUSANDS of devotees thronged to the headquarters of the Missionarres of Charity in the Indian city of Calcutta on Wednesday to offer prayers for Mother Teresa on the 10th anniversary of her death.

The doors of Mother House, where the ethnic Albanian nunlived and died, were thrown open at dawn and hundreds of slum dwellers from the city walked in

Holding candles, they knek before Mother Teresa's tomb in one of the sprawling halls of the building and prayed as nuns ded in traditional white sans with blue borders joined them.

"She was a great social worker with a strong heart to help all the poor. She is God's secretary," said Pushpa, a middle-aged woman who came all the way from the southern state of Kerala to pray for her cancer-stricken mother.

A few dozen people from a rationalist society shouted slogans outside, saying Mother Teresa should not be portrayed as a saint-reflecting criticism in some Indian circles over her opposition to buth control and

pit of misery and suffering, crit- India, on Wednesday, Sept. 5. ics argued, ignoring its long history of intellectual and artistic

Mother Teresa made Calcutta her home and opened several homes, including one for those who were old and dying and the other for destitute children. Archbishop of Calcutta, Lucas

As people sang hymns, Sister Nirmala, the superior general of the order, held her palms together occasionally waved at

Sircar, led a special Mass where

rich and poor sat together in



MISSIONARIES of Charity nuns light lamps on the tomb of Mother Teresa, the founder of the order, on her 19th death Calcutta was also painted as a anniversary which was observed as 'Happy Feast Day' in Calcutta,

She succeeded the ailing Mother Teresa six months before she died, aged 87, on Sept.

"I am feeling deep joy and gratitude remembering Mother Teresa's presence today among us," she said as she placed a candle on the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner's tomb.

The doors of Mother House remained open throughout the day and hundreds of people walked in with pakins pressed together, some carrying flowers. "Mother helped me get a job

and survive when there was nothing to look forward to in life," said Harihar Sahu, a blind man. "I hope she is made a saint

Letters written by Mother Teresa to her colleagues and superiors over 66 years reveal she sometimes doubted God and tormented about her faith.

The collection of letters complied by an advocate for her sainthood was published on Tuesday under the title "Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light." Reuters

Chinese toys recall

NEW YORK-TOYMAKER MATtel Inc. on Tuesday announced a third recall of Chinese-made toys, saying it would take back more than 800,000 units globally that contain "impermissible" levels of lead.

In total, 522,000 US toys and 322,000 outside the United States are being recalled. The toys were shipped between Aug. 3, 2006, and July 31, 2007, the company

The latest recall involves three Fisher-Price try models and eight Barbie brand playsets. No Barbie dolls were included.

Mattel instructs people to go to its website (www.service.mat tel.com) to establish whether they own an affected toy. After they fill out a form and send back the affected parts, Mattel will send them replacement and bonus parts.

The recall arose out of Mattel's investigation of its toys manufactured by vendors in China. In the last five weeks, the company al-

ready had announced two recalls of millions of Chinese toys due to excessive amounts of lead paint and other dangers.

A spate of toy recalls has sparked concern over the quality of products made in China. The US House of Representatives' subcommittee on commerce, trade and consumer protection is to hold a Sept. 19 hearing on how to protect US children from imported products containing lead

Lead paint has been linked to health problems in children, including brain damage.

Mattel chief executive Robert Eckert said he could not guarantee there would be no further toy recalls, but stressed that the testing of products it promised after the first major recall on Aug. 1 was now complete.

"You can never say never, that there won't be more (recalls)," said Eckert in a telephone interview on Tuesday.

Dinosaurs wiped out by asteroid breakup

PARIS—THE EXTINCTION OF the dinosaurs 65 million years ago can be traced to a collision between two monster rocks in the asteroid belt nearly 100 milhon years earlier, scientists report on Wednesday.

The smash drove a giant sliver of rock into Earth's path, eventually causing the climate-changing impact that ended the reign of the dinosaurs and enabled the rise of manumals—including, eventually,

Other asteroid fragments smashed into the Moon, Venus and Mars, pocking their faces with mighty craters, the US and Czech researchers believe.

Mixing skills in time travel, jigsaw-making and carbon chemistry, the trio carried out a computer simulation of the jostling among orbital rubble left from the

building of the Solar System.

The sleaths were guided by an intriguing clue-a large asteroid called (298) Baptistina, which shares the same orbital track as a group of smaller rocks.

Turning the clock back, the simulation found that the Baptistina bits not only fitted together, they were also remnants of a giant parent asteroid, around 170 kilometers across, that once cruised the innermost region of the asteroid belt.

Around 160 million years ago-the best bet in a range of 140-190 million years—this behemoth was whacked by another giant some 60 km across.

From this soundless collision was born a huge cluster of rocks, including 300 bodies larger than 10 km and 140,000 bodies larger than 1 km.



WHAT'S INSIDE 🖪 Ababa, Fernando cop RP golf slots/A22



Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

Text us your feedback; inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph



🖪 Rafa, Serena head for exits/A24

Eagles battle Maroons

THE ATENEO BLUE EAGLES will be keeping this in mind when they take on the languishing University of the Philippines Maroons today in the UAAP men's basketball competition

STANDINGS W L

GAMES TODAY (Ningy

Aquino Stadiom)

2 p.m.—Ateneo vs UP

4 p.m.—National

vs Adamson

La Salle

Adamson

at the Ninoy Aquino Stadi-

And Ateneo coach Norman Black maintains that the 2 p.m. match will be no scrimmage for the Eagles' eagerly awaited showdown against rival La Salle Green Archers on Sunday.

"It's a game," said Black. "[Like Adamsonl, they have nothing to lose and they gave us a difficult time. UP will be the same thing if we don't come and play. It's important that we establish a certain level of play."

A victory will assure the Eagles at least a playoff for a Final Four berth.



HAIHLOSS EXPERTS IN AMERICA REVEAL FRIGHTENING FACTS

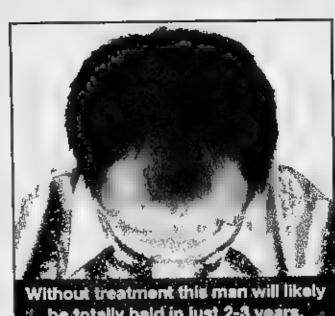
Men Going Bald Lose One Hair Every 15 Minutes!

Recent research from top trichologists in the USA reveals that the rate of a man's hairloss can reach about 35,000 hairs a year on a baidness-prone head. That means, when receding and thinning are at their peak, a man on his way to baldness is losing one hair approximately every fifteen minutes!

As most men prior to experiencing any hairloss have a total scalp cover of 100,000 to 150,000 hairs or more, a mere four disappearing every hour don't get nonced - until it's too late. Based on these figures it's easy to see how it takes only 3-5 years for a 30-year old man to be bald by the time he's 34 - if he does nothing about it.

Why is it that so many men let themselves go bald - when there's enough time at the beginning of the hairloss process to get expert advice and the right trichological treatments? It seems there are a number of reasons, the main one being unawareness of what is available at professional hair-and-scalp care centres. The best known is Svenson, which has been in the business of controlling hairloss for over twentyfive years across Asia and around the world. Svenson is where people go when they don't want to go bald.

If it really disturbs you that you're losing one hair every fifteen minutes, it makes a lot



be totally bald in just 2-3 years.

of sense to call Svenson for an appointment. It

costs nothing to have a qualified trichologist analyze your hair and scalp. You'll learn the cause of your hairloss and what the right treatments can do. And you'll discover how your hair and scalp can be optimized for maximum growth potential.

Don't wait another 15 minutes and one more hair, call Svenson now for a no-cost consultation

today Telephone 892-4247/234-0851 (Cebu).

Two young prospects in Pacman undercard

UST Tigers.

EMMAN Monfort (front) and the Ateneo

started with a win over Japa Cuan and the

Blue Eagles hope to ride the momentum that

CEBU CITY-TWO topnotch prospects from North Cotabato will be seeing action in the undercard of the Oct. 6 rematch between Filipino boxing superstar Manny Pacquiao and Marco Antomo Barrera in

Las Vegas. "I promise to prioritize these two boxers in the card," Pacquiao. said "When I fight Barrera, they will also be fighting in the undercard."

The boxers are unbeaten prospects Glenn Gonzales and Jundy Maraon.

Gonzales (6-0, 4 KOs) is an exciting toe-to-toe featherbanger weight whose fight style has been likened to that of Pacquiao.

Maraon (10-0-1, 8 KOs) is a super bantamweight upstart who hits like a mule and has skills backed by a solid amateur background.

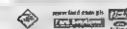
"These two fighters benefited a lot from the training program brought in by Cuban coach Espinosa," said North Cotabato vice governor Manny Piñol.

Gonzales and Maraon have been training the last two weeks in Cebu. Sal-Lagumbay, contributor



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Milo elims to Naga City this Sunday

AFTER SORTIES THROUGH THE VISAYAS, the 31st National Milo Marathon shifts its course to Luzon in the Bicol region with its first stop on Sunday in Naga City hosted by Mayor Jesse M. Robredo



HERMAN Suizo, the 1997 Milio Marathon champion, joined the 21K race of the 31st National Milo Marathon Ilollo leg last Sunday, Suizo, 47, placed 9th with a time of 1:23:05.

The Visayas elimination runs, which visited Tagbilaran, Tacloben, Cebu, Dumaguete, Roxas City, and Iloilo last Sunday, attracted 42,253 runners, including luminaries like Senator Pia Cayetano in Cebu on Aug. 12 and Rep. Raul Gonzalez Jr. in Doilo lest weekend. According to locals

organizer Pedro Lee, chair of the Naga City Sports Commission, 4,000 runners coming from the sbt provinces comprising the Bicol Region are expected to answer the starting gun at Plaza Quezon at 6 a.m. to be fired off by Robredo.

The Naga City leg is the 15th leg in this year's 24-leg Milo Marathon nationwide elimithation run held in partnership with Bayview Park Hotel-Manila, Adidas, and the Department of Tourism. The race is one of the highlights of the feast of Our Lady of Peñafrancia.

The top three finishers in the men's and women's divisions of the 21K elimination run will received P10,000, P6,000, and P4,000, respectively, plus trophies and will advance to the 42K national finals slated on Nov. 18 at the Ourino Grandstand.

"I expect an exciting race because top runness in the region are seeing action for the top prize and the opportunity to compete in the 42 kilometers Milo national finals" said AVP for Mile Sports Pat Goe-Ong.



MARK Fernando (left) and Jonel Ababa continue to pace the grueling eliminations for the Philippine team.

Ababa, Fernando cop RP golf slots

By Musong R. Castillo

SILANG, CAVITE-DECEIVING-LY long and a wizard around the greens, reed-thin Jonel Ababa again stood out on another testing day at The Rivlera's Langer layout to take a piece of the lead with two rounds left in the NGAP National Qualifiers.

The 23-year-old Ababa, the first winner of the National Caddies' Open, fired a two-over-par 73 to pull even with fellow Calatagan bet Mark Fernando as they all but put a lock on two of six RP Team slots being contested.

Spring Oil dribblers trounce Vietnamese

ted the visiting Vietnam natio-

the Malabon Sports Comp.ex.

The Cooking Oil Masters of

Nmo Marquez and Larry Ro-

The Vietnamese, coached by

former Spring mentor Ricky

driguez tallied 20 points each.

Pernando, one of the foremost products of the NCO program being run by the Philippine Amateur Golf Development Poundation of Tommy Manotoc, stayed affoat despite a 76 mainly caused by two triple bogeys on a humad day. The frontrunners have identical

108-hole 434 total going into the last two days of the marathon elimina-Also virtually assured of a place in

the RP team taking part in three important international tournaments. this year was Ferdinand Aurizo, who fired a 75 to be in solo third at 435.

Anthony Fernando, Mark's cousin 73 to stay alive.

form as they stepped up their

Malabon City Mayor Tito

But Tien Bang led the Viet-

namese with 12 points while

Tran Boan Mark Nguyen and

Nguyen San Toh added 10 each.

who held the lead in the first two rounds at the Couples course last week, still couldn't check his slide, turning in a fourth-straight over-par card = a 75 = to be in fourth at 438.

The race for the last two slots became interesting, with amateur ace Jay Bayron still trying to regain sharp form and Michael Bibat, the big Asian Games bronze medal winner, in a heated battle.

Bibat shared the day's best round with Ababa and pulled even with Bayron, who shot a 74, at 439, just six strokes better than the seventhrunning Gene Bondoc, who fired a

"I'm happy with the boys'

(Spring) showing," said Padilla,

who is helping bankroll the

Spring-NBC Selection's trip to

MALABON-SPRING 93-Marquez 20.

VIETNAM 71-Bu 12, Guyen 10, Tran

10. Trieu B. Soam 8, Pham 6, Robignat 4.

Quarters: 33-22, 51-41, 72-61 93-71

Rodriguez 20, Epondulan 14, De Castro 13,

Reyes 11, Kalaw 6, Tajonera 4, Cuenca 3,

Taiwan next month.

Villamin 3. Inigo 2, Aguilar 2

Tan 4, Nguyen T. 3, Du 2

Asiad champ Valle enters SMC 10-ball

GANDY VALLE, THE 1998 Asian Games 9-ball doubles gold medalist and Roberto Gomez, the 2007 Norway Battle of Scandinavia 9-ball winner, head the cast in the first San Miguel Corporation (SMC) Scotch Doubles 10 ball event starting on Sept. 19 at the Elbowroom/ Metro Walk in Pasig

The 30-year-old Valle will be teaming up with either Joman Ocampo or Michael Feliciano in the threeday event staking P140,000 to the win-



"I'm already preparing hard for this tournament," said Valle in Filipino.

Gomez, 28, will be partnered by either Carlo Biado or Mike Takayama. 'Skill is of the essence in 10-ball, unlike the

9-ball where there's a bit of luck," said Gomez, who like Valle is a member of the Bugsy promotion stable. The pair of Antonio Gabica, and Renemar

David, the 2006 Sydney World Junior quarterfinalist, also signified their intention to play.

Other entries include the pair of 2007 Korean Pro tour 9-ball champion Joven Bustamante and former snooker ace Benpie Guevarra and Negros Billiard Stable stalwarts Lee Vann Corteza and Ricky Zema.

For details, call Jojo Santos at 09157008000, Valle 09169589897 and Jharome Pena at 09183942779

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Rivilla still MPLFA head

BUSINESSWOMAN Cathy Rivilla was unanimously elected to a twoyear term as president of the Muntilupa, Parañaque and Las Piñas Football Association during its general assembly meeting at the



RIVILLA

Sphere Gym in Muntinlupa City last weekend. Also elected to the MPLFA board were Ernie

Nierras, Wool Reyes, Mari Duarte, Ric Venus, Cyril Dofitzs, Jojo Durian and Chito Manuel, who will also serve for two years. Following her reelection and based on the

MPLFA constitution and by-laws, Rivilla appointed Manuel as vice president, Reyes, general secretary; Venus, assistant general secretary; and Duarte, treasurer.

Rivilla, co-team manager of the national women's team, is also an official of the Philippine National Women's Football Association.

The 37-year-old Rivilla is one of two Filipino women match commissioners—the other being former Philippine Olympic Committee president Cristy Ramos-accredited by the Inremational Football Federation or Fifa.

From 12 clubs, the MPLFA has grown to over 30 members.

The MPLFA girls squad won last year's National Under-17 tournament.

Racing, backed by Bingo Bonanza Corp., Hen-

ry Sy Jr. of SM companies, Willy Ocier of Pacif-

ic Online Systems Corp., Industria.com and

Belle Corp.; in the Cadet 60 class. Vei-Ar Suba

Vencer John Suba, the current ROK Junior

Another Jet Racing member, Franco Reyes,

paresetter of the local series, took third place

in the Formula 125 Juniors class and fourth in

made it a 1-2 finish for the Philippines.

Clyde and Ezy, Mark win CLYDE AND EZY OF RMF CHIEF OFFICER while Gigi Mendoza's Twinchel edged Lauder-

KidzHoops All-Sundays tourney set

MALABON City Mayor Tito Oreta gets set to toss the ball

before the Malabon/Spring Cooking Oil-Vietnam game while

Spring team owner and NBC president Tac Padilla looks on.

THE ALL-SUNDAYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FOR KIDS' LEVELING day is set on Sept. 9 at the Dumlao Gym along Shaw Boulevard in Mandaluy-

ong City at 2 p.m. Registration opens at 1 p.m. The tournament proper starts Sept. 30 at the RFM Gym. The KidzHoops league now has three age group di-Disions, the 10 under, 12 under and 14 under. Boys and girls ages 8 to 14 are Sensouraged to join. The kids are assured of four league games and one touriney game. For inquirles, log-on to www.kidzhoops.com or call 3710639.

HOLE-IN-ONE: Mar 🥊 Maron (third from left) of the Royal Okra **Golf Club recently** made an ace on the 176-yard hole No. 4 of Valley's South course using a 3-wood. With him are RJ Baretto. Joe Tayawa and Joey



First stag derby at Roligon today

ROLIGON MEGA COCKPIT'S FIRST EVENT FOR THE 2007 STAGFIGHTING season unfolds today via the Stag Festiva) 5-stag derby. The 2-stag elimination round starts at 4 p.m. Round two sizzles on Saturday while the championship round takes place on Monday. Competitors include Nalson Uy, Mallton Cuadra, Pax Cabrera, Ricky Peleya, James Uy and Raymond Burgos.

SJC Anniversary derby set Sept. 10

THE NUMBER OF CONFIRMED ENTRIES BALLOONED TO 146 AS OF YESterday in connection with the SJC Anniversary 6-stag derby stated Sept. 10. 12 and 15 at San Juan Collseum. The event dangles a guaranteed prize of P2 polition. Host and SUC owner Rodelfo Pineda pegged the entry fee at P15,000. Meanwhile, the SJC Cockers Club 5-stag derby series starts on Saturday.



CLIMBERS: Pride and joy are etched on the faces of the winners of the Cali Party Responsibly Series wall climbing competition held Aug. 18 at the Power Up gym, Silver City, Pasig. The Call Silver Cup went to the champion team while individual medals were awarded.

Cyrus Hao and Mark of Harry Soriano turned back their respective rivals start of the 2007 RMF Challenge Cup Tuesday at the Reyes gym in Mandaluyong Showing steely resolve, Clyde and Bzy re-

SPRING COOKING OIL ROU Magallanes, still groped for

nal basketball team, 93-71, preparation for the Southeast

Tuesday in a goodwill game at Asian Games set this December

NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Oreta made the ceremonial toss

Padilla raced to a 33-22 lead at and then went on to watch the

the end of the first quarter and home team plaster the visitors

never looked back as veterans from start to finish.

in Thailand

pulsed Jethro of VP Dave Collina, 84-71, to begin its title campaign in the event supported by Royand Machester Five Trading Corporation and organized by Metro Basketball under Commissioner Nilo Fernandez.

Not to be outdone, Mark beat Apexabba Deo of Dennis Abarra in overtime, 55-52,

ics Cavaliers of Eric Magtabog, 45-43. The event's opening was graced by TV per-

sonalines led by Ruffa Mae Quinto, Rustom Padula and PBA star Johnny Abbanentos. The PCC cheer dancers highlighted the opening with a breathtaking performance in

front of the big crowd. Games are held every Tuesday and Friday at

the Reyes gym.

Metro Basketball is the leading organizer of corporate basketball. For details, call 4802093 or text 09179948408.

bets deliver Asian karting medals Christian Gaddi copped the third title for Jet

THE JET RACING TEAM DELIVERED FOR the Philippines in the third leg of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship recently at the Sentul International Circuit in Bogor, Indonesia.

The Filipinos bagged three titles, a runnerup and a third place finish.

Team captain Javi Benntez, a Grade 7 student of Xavier School, powered Jet Racing's tithe haul by topping both the ROK Junior and the Formula 125 Junior events against foreign rivals Rio Haryanto and Senna Noor of Indonesia and Mitchell Gilbert of Malaysia.

MANILA MAYOR ALFREDO LIM'S RE-

lentless drive against illegal bookies in local

horse racing got a boost recently as top offi-

cials of the Metropolitan Association of

Race Horse Owners Inc. (Marho) expressed

their all-out support to the renewed cam-

Mandaluyong City Mayor and Marho presi-

dent Benhur Abalos and other Marho officials,

In a recent dialog held at Manila City Hall,

paign against the illegal betting trade.



JAVI Benitez (81) and Vencer John Subs on

thanked Lim for boosting the anti-bookle drive

in Manila, immediately resulting to noticeable

"We would like to express our appreciation

to Mayor Lim for intensifying the campaign

against the illegal bookies, coming in the heels

of a buge drop in regulated horse racing sales

Last week, Lim ordered the renewed crack-

gains for the local horse racing industry.

over the past month," said Abalos.

down on illegal bookies in Manila.

managed to grab seventh place in the 14-man Mini-ROK cast.

Race 1—(Trl)—Vivere Influential Marho supports Lim's anti-bookie campaign

(3), Ocean Deep (6),
Million Dollar (1)
Race 2—(Ort/Iri)—Carry
Over (6), Mean
Machine (1), Patricia's pet (4), Mahogany (5)
Race 3—(Tri)—Regent Skipper (3), When We're
Epign (2) Royal Elect (4)

the ROK Juniors division

Flying (2), Royal Fleet (4)
Race 4— (Ort/Trl)—Mary Jane Bomb (1), Turner/Tatanka (3), Gelay's Charm (2), Smoot

Strike (6)

Race 6—(Ort/Tri)—Sound of Suence (4), Suning (5), Sharp Cookie (6), Saintly Path (2)

Race 6—(Ort/Tri)—Arctic Desert (1), Big Spende (4) Mighty Mare (5), Rapid Fire (3)

Race 7—(Ort/Tri)—Camberwell Beauty (1), Lord Goo (3), Common Goal (6), Take Ten (7)

Race 8—(Super 6/Ort/Tri)—Bootlegs (1), Soud Messite (3), Satang Westside (6), Deep Rising/Deserting (7), Sutter's Royal (10), Storm (4)

SPORTS

PSC favors revival of PNG

Kobe back in a flash this time

N HUDDLE

WHEN HE FIRST came to Manila nine years ago, Kobe Bryant was only 19 years old and a sophomore in the NBA. (See related story on

It was August, I distinctly re-Beth Celis member, and his 20th burthday

was only a few days away.

Kobe was a big, big hit in Manila. He made the strongest impact among Pinoy NBA fans because he was game, had absolutely no airs about him and was very accommodating.

At the slightest prodding, Kobe would show off his moves, his high-flying slam dunks, to insatiable fans who couldn't seem to have enough him. He even played one-on-one with our PBA cagers.

Kobe was a publicist's dream. People went crazy everywhere he went. He adored children and would go out of his way to entertain them.

He made an appearance at Don Bosco High School in Makati where he played with the kids, ala Globe Trotter, danced with them and even dined with them. Back then, he had plenty of time to spend with his Pinoy fans.

As the publicist hired by Adidas, the brand he was endorsing at the time, I got to know Kobe from up close even if he didn't get to know me. I know, for example, that he often exasperated the local security assigned to him because of his soft spot for children.

When it came to kids, he just couldn't say no or ignore their request, even if he had to break security rules. When his three-day visit ended, the question everyone asked was, when he would return.

Yesterday, I attended the press conference hosted by Nike-the new brand Kobe is endorsing-at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel, to compare the Kobe '98 edition with that of the latest model.

I remember the excitement we all felt when we first caught sight of him-afro hairdo and all-at the airport on his arriva in '98 There was something about him then that made him so charismanc. I wondered if the Nike staff felt that too.

Kobe himself said that he has gone full circle since his first visit to Manila, winning three titles, among other things.

Not surprisingly, we were told that Kobe had requested that he be with kids during his one-day stay here in Manila. Kobe spent about 30 minutes answering questions from the media.

FLASHBACK, 1998: Almost all the training participants at the Don Bosco had left when I noticed a teenage girl who had lost one arm sitting forlornly with a man who looked like her father.

She said she had waited all day for a chance to have her photo taken with Kobe, a lifelong dream, but didn't have the nerve to approach him.

The girl introduced herself as Kathryn, a varsity basketball player from De La Salle Zobel. By this time, the training session was over, Kobe was very tired and was on his way to the vehicle that would take him back to the botel

But when he heard about Kathryn, Kobe stopped dead on his tracks, took a 180-degree turn, returned to the court and immediately approached her for a photo session, a brief chat and a bite. That's the Kobe Bryant I want to remember.

Sportswriter Pasco dies at 26

CHRISTIAN ACE Pasco, who covered the sports beat for Abante and Abante Tonight, died Tuesday night of complications caused by severe asthma attack at the Marikina Valley

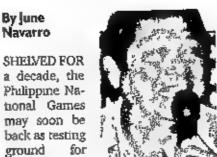
Medical Center He was 26. The remains of Pasco who wrote for University of Santo Tomas, gampus paper The Varsitarian before he joined the sportswriting commanity lie in state at the Paket Santiago

Funeral Homes besides the Our Lady of

the Abandoned (OLA) Church in Barangay San Roque, Marikina City

interment will be announced later

Pasco, whose shy, soft-spoken demeaner was a stark contrast to the vivid and colorful way by which he protrayed his coverages in his articles, is survived by wife Jean, 1 yearold son Ace Jared, parents Rodo to and Salvacion and sisters Cherry Grace and Crystal Anne.



By June

new talents.

Philippine

Sports Commission chair William "Butch" Ramirez has broached the idea of reviving the PNG in the wake of Executive Order 651 that called for the strengthening of the agency's grassroots development

Ramirez said that the grassroots program should culminate in a multi-sport event such as the PNG to measure the

abilities and skills of the athletes discovered through EO651.

Consigned to oblivion after the end of the term of President Fidel V Ramos, the PNG was last held in 1997 in Cebu City

with the help of local government units. "If you ask me, I think the PNG should be revived," said Ramirez, "The

grassroots development program should culminate in an event and the PNG fits the bill."

The PSC top honcho, however, doesn't want to preempt the potential of EO651 and vowed to implement only the instructions of President Gioria Macapagal-Arroyo in the said directive.

"For now, the PSC will just lay down the groundwork for its implementation," said Ramirez.

With the agency's Philippine Sports Institute as lead organization, Ramuez plans to create a task force he will chair and a representative from the Philippine Olympic Committee as co-chair.

AMA, UM dispute 2nd title slot today

on University of Manila in a playoff for the last title slot today in the National Athletics Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (Naascu) men's basket-

ball tournament at the San Juan gym. The Titans pullified the Hawks twiceto-beat advantage via an 86-62 triumph

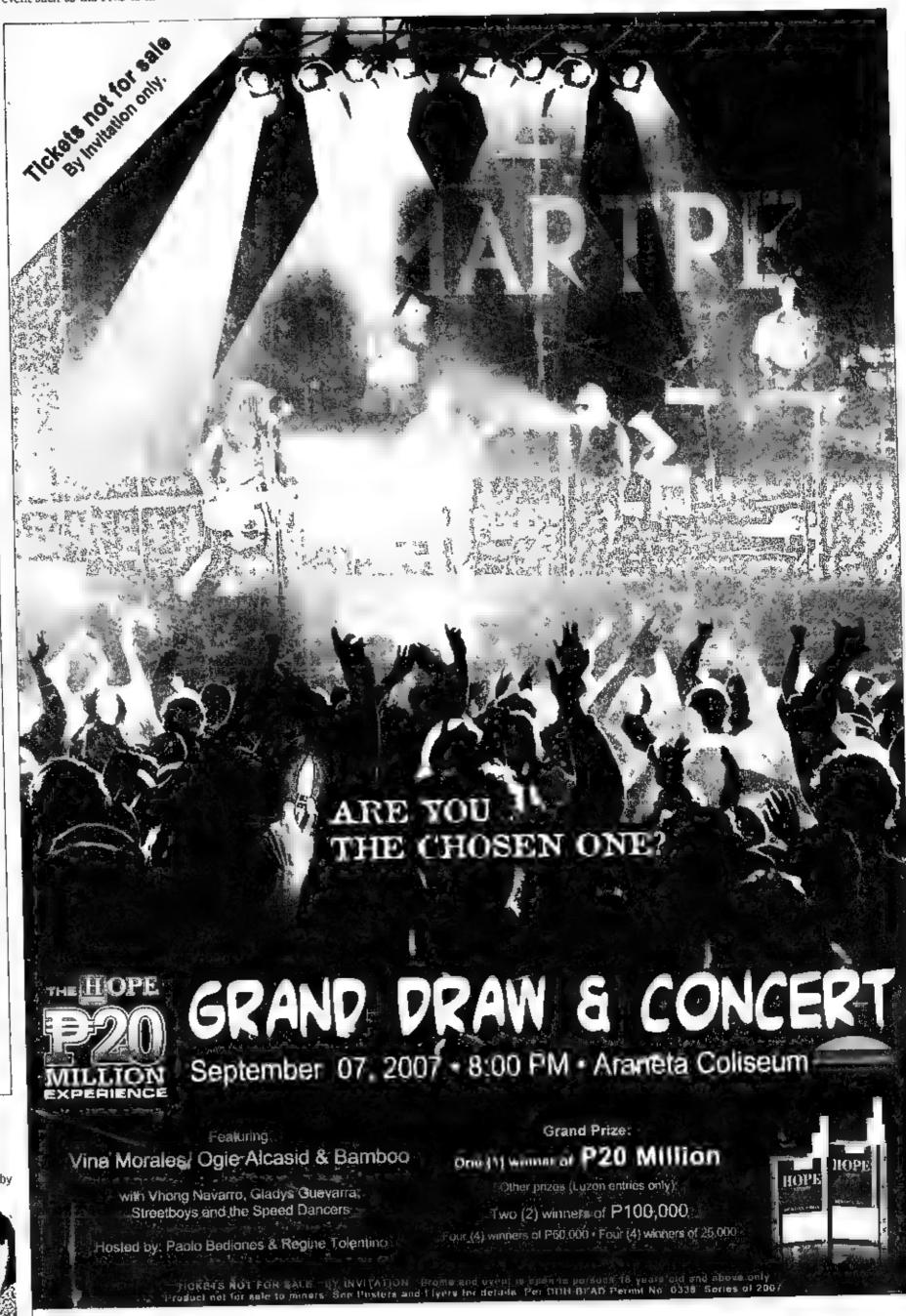
ond straight championship stint alive.

The winner will take on STI, which crushed San Sebastian-Cavite, 92-61, in the semifinals, in a best-of-three championships series.

The Hawks are expected to come back fighting since they are gunning for

DEFENDING CHAMPION AMA TAKES Last Sunday that kept their bid for a sec- a return to the finals after winning five straight titles from 2001 to 2005 while setting a record 81-game victory streak.

Onofre Napiza, Frank Bonus and Russen Assuncion are the main men for UM coach Loreto Toientino. The 6-foot-3 Napıza won the Rookie of the Year last Marc Anthony Reyes

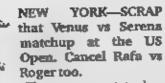


Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.



Rafa, Serena head for exits

Henin, Ferrer send home US Open fan favorites



The tournament took a sharp twist Tuesday-and early Wednesday—when a pair of fan favorites at Flushing Meadows got knocked out.

First, it was Serena Williams. Topseeded Justine Henin beat her for the third straight time in a Grand Slam quarterfinal, making it look easy at the end in a 7-6 (3), 6-1 victory.

"I got to go back and study and figure out how to beat her That's it. Bottom line," Williams said.

Next up for Henin might be Serena's sister. Venus Williams plays No. 3 Jelena Jankovic in the quarters Wednesday, and the winner gets Henin in the

Henin does not need to say who she'd prefer to play: she's 1-7 against Venus, 7-0 against Jankovic.

"Every match is a final for me now,"

YORK-SCRAP Henin said. "If I have to play Venus, it tle, Federer was to play No. 5 Andy one of those players in that smaller will be a good challenge for me to play both sisters in the same tournament."

A lot of tennis fans were looking forward to seeing Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer meet in a third straight Grand Slam final. That won't happen now-15th-seeded David Ferrer upset the second-seeded Nadal, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 6-2, in a fourth-round match that ended at 1:50 a.m.

"Sure there is disappointment for me, but that is tennis," Nadal said.

The lower deck at Arthur Ashe Stadium was still nearly full when Nadal's last shot sailed long at 1:50 a.m. It came close to the latest ending at the US Open-back in 1993, Mats Wilander finished off Mikael Pernfors at 2:26

It capped a day that also saw a player lose a point when a ball fell out of his pocket, another complain about center court TV screens and one of the wildest outfits in Open history.

Trying for his fourth straight Open ti- NADAL: Conquered secrets

Roddick on Wednesday night.

Earlier Tuesday, No. 3 Novak Djokovic reached the Open quarterfinals for the first time by beating No. 23 Juan Monaco, 7-5, 7-6 (2), 6-7 (6), 6-

After his win, Djokovic talked about

the Nadal-Federer history. "Tennis needs this rivalry," he

group behind which is trying to break that. Break it through and make this group of two a little bit bigget"

Monaco was serving in the third-set mebreaker when the ball he'd put in his pocket in case of a fault slipped out. It was the second time in the match that

happened, automatically costing hum the point. AP



Mickelson backs out of BMW golf championship

withdrew Tuesday from the BMW Charnpionship, one day after threatening not to play over a conflict he had with PGA Tour he wouldn't explain.

SERENA Williams feels she has to figure out a

Response with the . .

way to beat justine Henin.

A24

"This decision was not an easy one to make, and in no way is meant as disre-

LEMONT, ILLINOIS-PHIL MICKELSON speciful to the tour or sending a message' to anyone," Mickelson said in a statement. Tve talked for weeks about meding to find a balance between my commissioner Tim Finchem over issues game, my business affaus and my family, and now is the time for me to take some

Mickelson was playing a corporate the Tour Championship.

outing with sponsor Bearing Point in the Chicago area and could not immediately reached for comment.

If all the best players are going to compere together in these PGA Tour Playoffs, it looks as though it won't happen until the fourth and final event next week at

Tiger Woods skipped the first week at The Barclays, saying his body and mind needed a break from back-to-back victories at a World Golf Championship and the PGA Tour Championship. Ernie Eis and Scott Verplank slopped last week at

the Deutsche Bank Championship. Mickelson had planned to miss the on.

third event, and winning in Boston while paired with Woods in the background gave him a platform to air some of his complaints. Without prompting, he mentioned on NBC Sports after his two-shot victory that he had made several suggestions to Finchem that were not acted up-

France trips Italy; Spain, Greece also triumph

MADRID, SPAIN—TONY PARKER POURED in 36 points Tuesday and Group D leader France beat Italy, 69-62, handing the Olympic runner-up its second loss at the European Championship.

Ar Granada, Serbia's Milan Gurovic heaved a three-pointer from half-court to force overtime, but Greece prevailed, 68-67. Also in Group A, Russia won its second straight, dommating last-minute qualifier Israel, 90-56.

Lithuania moved into the second round with a 95-75 win over Group Crival Czech Republic (0-2) before Germany (2-0) routed Turkey (0-2), 79-49, behind 24 points from Dirk Nowitzki.

Pau Gasol had 26 points and nine rebounds to lead world champion Spain over Latvia, 93-77, in Sevilla, where Croatia (1-1) beat Portugal (0-2), 90-68, in another Group B game.

In the other Group D march, Slovenia (2-0) advanced with a 70-52 win over Poland.

At Alicante, Parker scored 13 of France's first 17 points and Les Bleus rallied from a 7-0 deficit to get within three to start the second quarter. But as Parker and France quieted, Italy build its biggest lead of the game, 33-24.

After cutting the deficit to five by intermission, Prance opened the second half with a 6-0 run to take its first lead, 37-36 thanks to two Parker free throws after Andrea Crosano was issued a technical foul for slamming the ball into the base of the basketball pole.

Parker scored France's next 10 points to give it a 47-41 advantage that Italy closed to 51-47 with the San Antonio Spurs guard finishing the final two minutes of the third quarter on the bench.

Italy scored six straight to start the fourth, reclaiming the lead, which it traded back-andforth until Tariq Kirksay hit a three-pointer with three minutes remaining to put France ahead for good, 63-60.

Nine years later, Kobe goes from star to super

By Francis T. J. Ochoa

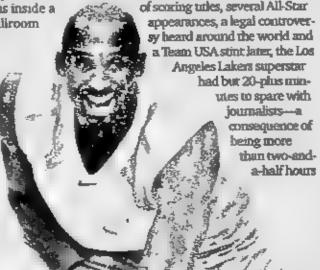
TOWARD THE END OF A PRESS conference that had the feet of a monthly fan club general assembly, Kobe Bryant cocked his head slightly to the right to ponder a question: How different was the Kobe Bryant who visited the country nine years ago from the Kobe Bryant who was fielding questions inside a posh Makati hotel baliroom yesterday?

second, PR-polished pause followed, just enough for the whir of video recorders and the chorus of exploding flashbulbs to capture the profile of the 6-foot-6 baskethall superstar in serious contempla-

"I had facial hair [then]," he said. The predictable round of laughter followed.

Actually, it was more than just follicle

load of bodyguards for a walk in a Makati mall and spent more than an and-answer portion. Three championships, a handful of soxing titles, several All-Star A weil-timed, split-



growth on the face that separated the late for the press conference. Kobe of 1998 from the Kobe of 2007. Had be been a player of lesser stature, the crowd at the Makati

The Kobe of 1998 was the genial, trying-to-please-everyone sophomore who stole out of his room past his bushour engaging the press in a question-

He was part Charles Barkley: "The important thing to remember is that when people talk about role models, we assume that these role models must be perfect. But nobody is perfect. The definition of a role model should be someone we learn from. We look at the mistakes those role models make and learn from them, not duplicate them." And he was part-Oprah: "I think that

phed into a mob. But this was Kobe

He was part-Michael Jordan: "The

thing that drives me most is the will to

Bryant, the one-time hoop wun-

derkind-turned-franchise player.

we should live every day like it's the last and enjoy the moment. As a kid, it seems like you'll live forever. But I think kids should learn to enjoy every And he was also a little of Drew

Carey. When asked what constituted a diet program that has seen him lose 20 pounds, he guipped: "Grass." And asked by a journalist, whose son skipped school to see him, what part of him was worthy of emulation by young children all over the world,

he said: "Apart from ditching school?" a self-depreciating comment that winged his decision to skip college and jump to the pros from the high school playgrounds. And when asked

players he would surround himself with if he was the LA Lakers owner, he replied: "You mean assuming I was Bill | Gates? The whole of Team USA." Shangri-La ballroom would have mor-

But most of all, he was all Kobe Bryant, The flamboyant, high-leaping. silky-shooting, shoot-first-ask-questions-later superstar who wrangled himself out of a legal mess by embracing basketball until he breathed it, until he became the ultra-talented swingman who could carry an entire storied franchise on his shoulders.

A lot of the player he has become started out by plunging into a mertiless killer regimen he refers to as the "Blackout."

"Because if you go through it, there's a chance you will black out," he explained.

It's a regimen he was set to share with young cagers yesterday at the PhilSports Arena, right after doing charity work at The Fort.

"Basketball is such a fun sport and to get the most out of it, the key is working hard," he said.

Next up for Bryant is a continued stint with Team USA, where he leads a bunch of pride-pricked cagers out to reinstall the United States as the Olympic champion in Beijing in 2008.

"We put a lot of emphasis on winning the Olympic gold," he said. "We're preparing like we're playing for the NBA finals. Right now, that's the intportant thing. When we go back to our teams, winning the NBA title is the most important thing."

This year's Kobe-who hopes to go by the moniker Black Mamba someday-is one of the leaders of that team. A far cry from the hang-loose, carefree type of guy who slapped hands with the press on his way out of a press conference nine years ago.

"When I first came here, I was 19," Bryant said, "Now I'm 29 and all grown up and I've won three champsonships and played for Team USA. It feels like I've come full circle."

Eagles take on winless Maroons; Bulldogs battle Falcons

From page A21

Running third at 7-4, the Eagles are jockeying for position against La Salle (9-3), defending champion Santo Tomas Tigers (7-5) and the Par Eastem Tamaraws (6-6).

"We don't want to end up in a tie with UST and FEU because they beat us by a bigger margin, than we beat

them," said Black. "The quotient system doesn't really save us right now so we really have to win."

In the second game, the National Bulldogs will try to keep their alim Flnai Four chances alive versus the Adamson Falcons at 4 p.m.

If the Eagles secure their fourth straight victory, the Katipunan-based

crew will also remain in the running for the twice-to-beat semifinal bonus.

"All the teams are a lot tougher," said Black. "You really have to be on top of your game. Otherwise, other teams may take advantage of you."

It's the reason the Eagles have been guarded in predicting a repeat of their

"I think we have to start concentrating on the fact that if we want to get to the Final Pour, we have to keep a certain level of play," said Black.

Last Saturday, forward Noncy Baclao delivered his finest performance in his debut season with 14 points, 79-55 rout of the Maroons in the first seven rebounds and three blocks to

pace the Eagles to an 81-68 triumph versus Adamson.

Just like the Maroons, the Palcons are out of semifinal contention with a woeful 1-10 card. The Buildogs' chances also started to fade after three straight losses that pushed them down to sixth place at 4-7.

Jasmine W. Payo



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August inflation eases further to 2.4%

IN THIS ISSUE

M SMC fund keen on buying Bank of

Commerce shares /B2 Maynilad soon to exit rehab/B3

China's Shimao eyes 2 BCDA lots in Boni

By Ronnel W. Domingo

CHINA'S REAL ESTATE GIANT SHANGhai Shimao group is vying for a joint venture with the Bases Conversion Development Authority on two properties for the development of "high-end, mixed-use"

Narciso L. Abaya, BCDA president and chief executive, said the properties included the 7.4-hectare lot that Shimao was initially interested in and where it was planning to invest some \$2 billion in hotels, condominiums, offices and a commercial

Abaya said Shimao was also looking at an area covering 35-40 hectares known as the Jusmag housing area from which retired Armed Forces officials have been evicted following an ownership dispute.

He said the Chinese firm was expected to submit a project proposal for the 7.4hectare lot by November while another proposal for the larger parcel of land was expected next year.

Abaya clarified that joint venture agreements for both properties would go through a bidding or a modified bidding such as a Swiss challenge, following a government policy that requires a competitive process for the selection of government

"The National Economic and Development Authority is currently working on the terms of reference on how to enter into (joint ventures like this)," he added.

The Justing (Joint United States Military Assistance Group) area—so-called because it was originally a housing project for the CHINA'S/ BS

Currencies **PESO-DOLLAR RATE** 40.64 = (STOCK MARKET PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

Stocks close higher on Wall St. rise

SHARE PRICES CLOSED 0.91-PERCENT higher yesterday following gains on Wail Street where data showing modest growth in the manufacturing sector gave levestors a lift, dealers said

(See stock merket report on Page 84)

They said fresh optimism that the US Federal Reserve will trim Interest rates later this month also bolstered sentiment.

The composite index rose 30 05 points to 3,342.35. Gainers beat losers 73 to 37. while 52 stocks ended flat. A total of 2.7 billion shares worth P3.3 billion changed

"The market again tracked US stocks while investors also have discounted the subprime mortgage concerns," said Jose Vistan at AB Capital Securities.

But Vistan said investors would contin-Be to be cautious in the run-up to the Federal Reserve's policy meeting on Sept. 18.

"Investors are becoming very selective and are going into quality stocks rather than betting on speculative issues," he said.

Rate seen staying below gov't target of 4-5% This brought the average inflation slower than the 3 percent recorded in

By Michelle V. Remo

THE INFLATION RATE FOR August eased further to 2.4 percent from 2.6 percent in July as nearly all commodity groups registered slower price increases during the month, the National Statistics Office reported yesterday.

for the first eight months of the year July. Average core inflation for Janto 2.6 percent, still much lower than the government's target of between 4 and 5 percent.

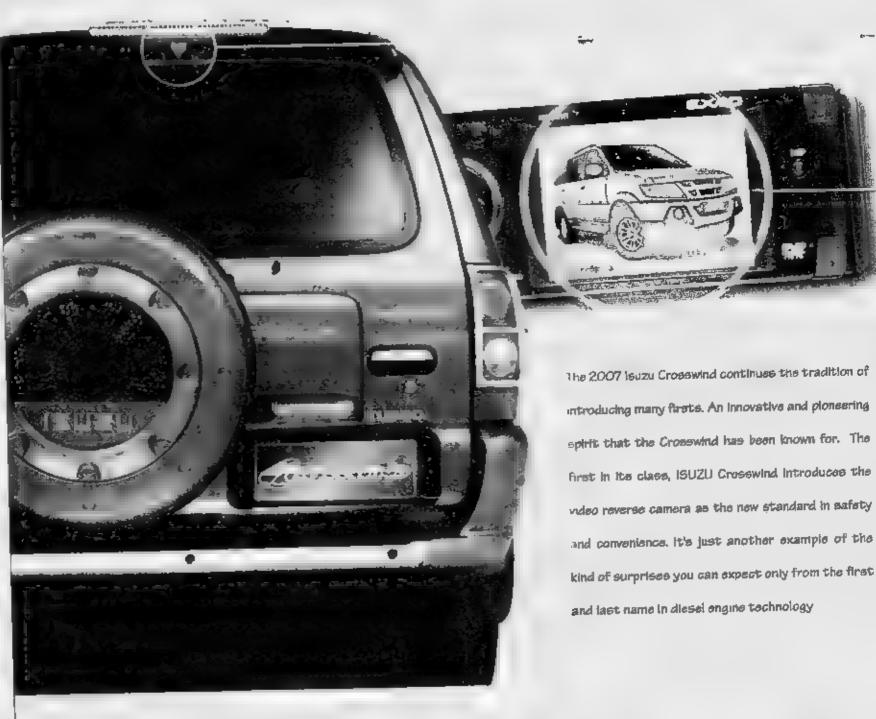
Core inflation, which excludes volatile prices of selected food and energy items, stood at 2.9 percent,

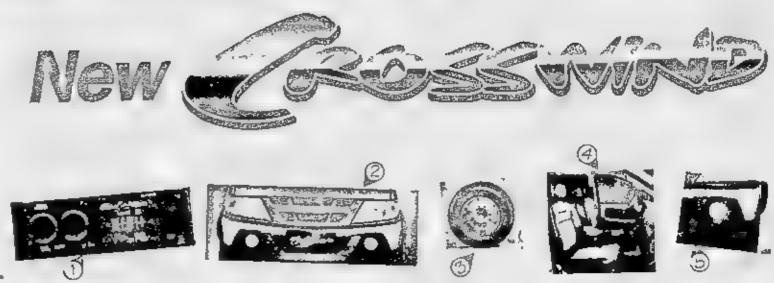
uary to August stood at 3 percent.

Prices of food, beverage and tobacco rose an average 2.5 percent, slower than the previous month's 2.8, housing and repair, 1.2 percent from 1.5

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Republic of the Philippines SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills

SEC Memorandum Circular No. 3 Series of 2007

ALL CONCERNED Subject . AMENDMENT OF REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS

In the with its continuing program to toster efficient business operations, the Commission, in its meeting on August 31 2007 resolved to amend its rules on the filling of reports with the Merket Regulation Department (MRC), Corporation Finance Department (CFD), Non-Traditional Securities and Instruments Department (NTD) and Company Registration and Monitoring Department (CRMD).

The amendments lowelve the discontinuation of some filings and the modification of the formal, content and frequency of submission of certain reports, as described in the succeeding peragraphs

Part & MARKET REGULATION DEPARTMENT

Section 1. The following reports filed with MRD shall, subject to Section 13 below, by discontinued:

- 1.1 Broker Dealers General Information Sheet *
- Transfer Agents
- Notice of Change of Address General information Sheet
- 1.3 Investment Houses/Lindenwittere
- General Information Sheet Annual Financial Statements*
- Investment Company Advisers General Information Sheet
- Annual Financial Statements
- Government Securities Efigible Dealers (GSED)
- General Information Sheet Annual Financial Statements *
- 1.6 Self Regulatory Organizations (Philippine Stock Exchange)
 - Semi-annual report on the number of investors' comptaints and other alled cases Quarterly opdates on price alerts
- Philippine Depository and Trust Corporation
 a) Monthly summary of POTC participants with tex cartification requirement

Securities Clearing Corporation of the Philippines Quarterly report of Mark-to-Market Colleteral Deposit Fund

Section 2. The reports of Transfer Agents on (a) Monthly Reconciliation of PCD and TA, (b) Monthly Certificate as to the number of chares registered under PCD Nomines. (c) Exception Report on "Loss of sec vities," and (d) the Monthly Stock Reconciliation by the Philippine Depository and Trust Corporation shall be discontinued. The collation of the data subject of the said reports shall henceforth be made by the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) and which reports shall, upon the request of MRD, be submitted to the letter by s-mail.

Section 3. The format, content and traquency of submission of the following reports shall be modified in the manner

a) Broker Dealers

a) Form 28-T (Notice of Termination as Salesman or Associated Person)	E-meil to MRD at <awww.ard@sec.gov.pir></awww.ard@sec.gov.pir>
b) Report on Treining Program	E-mail to PSE and PSE shall e-mail the report to SEC every 30° day of January.
Associated Person's questerly compliance report	The report shall follow the format of SEC Form 80 30.2 QCR

b) Self Regulatory Organizations (Philippine Stock Exchange)

a) Examination calendar	The name of the form shall be changed to "Audit calendar" to clarify its objective.
 b) Semi-annual report on newly listed, diluted and suspended issues. 	The report shall be submitted annually every 30° day of Jerusny and shall cover the preceding year.

Acceptement Houseau/Linderwriters

	4	
-	Form QPR (Quarterly Progress Report with Quarterly Financial Statements)	The report shall follow the format of SEC Form II-14 OPR
	b) Form AR (Armuel Report)	The report shell follow the formet of SEC Form H-14 AR.

CORPORATION FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Section 4. The following reports filed with CFD shall, subject to Section 13 below, be discontinued:

- 4.1 Listed Issuers a) Self-rating form
- 4.2 Issuer of Registered/Exempt Commercial Papers
- Monthly Report (M-101-40)
 - List of issuances, outstanding balances and maturing obligations that form part of Form 17-Q Quarterly Report and Monthly Report of issuers of exempt
 - commercial papers
- 4.3 Financing Companies
 - Report on the change in directors/officers with MSI clearance, police clearance, certificate of good moral character, band credit information and proof of financial capacity

Section 5. The self-rating form referred to in paragraph 4.1 (a) shall be reptaced by the Corporate Governation Scorecard provided for in SEC Memorandum Circular No. 2, Series of 2007

Section 6. In Neu of the FCOF1 (Financing Company Quarterly Financial Statement 1) and FCOF2 (Financing Company Quarterly Financial Statement 2) reports, Financing Companies shall submit within 15 calendar days from the end of the semester the Interior Financial Statements (FCIF) which shall cover the head office and its

Section 7 The Preliminary Information Statement (Form 20-IS) shall, upon payment of the processing fee, be field directly with CFD by Listed issuers, Registered Issuers and Public Compenies. The Definitive Information Statement shall, however, be filed with the general receiving section of the Commission.

HON-TRADITIONAL SECURITIES AND INSTRUMENTS DEPARTMENT

Section 6. The following reports of Pre-Need Companies shall, exhibit to Section 13 before, be discontinued:

- Recort on lapsed, cancalled and surrendered plans List of salesmen on apprenticeship
- General Information Sheet 1

Section 9. The filing periods of the following reports by Pre-Need Compenies shall be charged in the marries

a) Interim Financial Statements	The report shall be submilled within 15 calander days from the end of the semester.
b) Monthly Trast Fund Statements from trustee banks	The report shall be submitted within 10 calendar days from the end of the month.
c) Monthly Sales Report	The report shall be submitted within 10 calender days from the end of the month.
d) Monthly Collection and Deposit to the Trust Fund Report	The report shell be submitted within 10 calendar days from the end of the month.
e) Copy of Pre-Need advertisement together with Certificate of Compliance with the Pre-Need Regulations and Advertising Board Code of Ethics	The report shall be submitted within three catendar days from the publication of the advertisement.

Section 10. Companies engaged in Alternative Tracing Systems shall submit Form 2-A (Change in Operation) not pater than 10 calendar days prior to the implementation of a material change in operation

COMPANY REGISTRATION AND MONITORING DEPARTMENT

Section 11. The following reports to CRMD shall be discontinued:

Notice of Postponement of Annual Meeting Alfidavit of Non-Holding of Annual Meeting

Section 12. The separate filling of a "Report of election, death, resignation, destation of office of directors, trustees and officers' shall be discontinued. However, in case any of the incidents mentioned happens, the corporation shall report the incident through an Amended General Information Sheet which shell be find within 30 calendar days from the occurrence of the incident

COMMON PROVISIONS

Section 13. The reports enumerated above marked with an asterisk (*) shall no longer be filed separately with the departments mentioned, but shall be filed only with CRMD within the prescribed periods.

Section 14. In the submission of the General information Sheet (GIS), the 30-calender day period shall be counted from the date the annual stockholders' mesong was actually held. However, if the corporation is unable to hold the meeting for the calendar year, the GIS shall be filed not later Jerssey 30 of the following year.

Section 16. The certificate of compliance with the Manual of Corporate Governance required of (a) Associated Persons of Broker Dealers, and (b) Compliance Officers of Transfer Agents, Investment Houses/Underwriters, usted issuers, Registered Issuers, Financing Companies, and Pre-Need Companies shall follow the format of SEC Form MCG - 2002 and shall be submitted every 30° day of January

Section 18. The certificate of attendance of directors in meetings of the board of directors of Broker Dealers. Transfer Agents, Investment Houses/Underwriters, Listed Issuers, Registerett Issuers, Financing Compenies and Pre-Need Companies shall be signed by the corporate secretary, and countersigned by the chairperson of the board of directors, and shall be submitted every 30° day of January

Section 17. All reports previously submitted by the corporations concerned that have not been discontinued or madried in the manner described in the preceding sections shall continue to be submitted in the form and particles. prescribed by applicable SEC rules and regulations Section 18. The provisions of the 2005 Consolidated Scale of Fines that relate in reports that have been

discontinued or modified by this Circular shall be deamed repealed or amended, as the case may be, provided, however that violations of reportorial requirements committed prior to this effectivity of this Circular shall be dealt with in accordance with the original Consolidated Scale of First Section 19. This Mergorandum Circular shall, either publication in two neverpapers of general circulation, take affect

on January 1, 2008.

September 5, 2007 Mandaluyong City. Metro Manila.

(PCI-September 6, 2007)

For the Commission:

(Sgd.) Fe B. Barin Charpersor

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BUSINESS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

SMC fund keen on buying Bank of Commerce shares

Exec says possible investment to beef up bank's capital base

By Doris C. Dumbac

THE RETIREMENT FUND OF food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. is in talks with Bank of Commerce over a possible investment in the mediumsized financial institution.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, San Miguel Corp. Retirement Fund announced its interest to buy shares in BOC.

In a separate interview, BOC president Raul de Mesa said the bank was indeed beefing up its capital base, but stressed that no deal has been finalized yet.

"Nobody's selling any stake," the bank president made it clear. "It will be new capital."

BOC is the banking arm of businessman Antonio "Tonyboy" Comangen, cousin of SMC chair Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangoo. The disclosure did not provide details.

De Mesa declined to say how much in new capital BOC would like to raise and how the proceeds would be used.

"It will still be subject to regulatory approvals," De Mesa said. BOC appears to have joined other local banks in their effort to beef up their respective capital base this year to be able to expand loan portfolios amid tighter capital adequacy requirement under the Basel II framework.

ral adequacy ratio of 12 percent. Aside from hurdling stiffer reguinvesting in the overseas market.



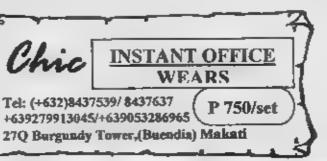
COJUANGCO

BOC recently made inroads in Africa's banking system by putting up a national bank in the oil-rich Equatorial Guinea. It helped the central African government set up a \$5-million bank, acquiring a 30-percent stake in it.

Banco Nacional de Gumea Equatorial, the first domestically incorporated bank, is 40-percent owned by the government of Equatorial Gunea, and 30 percent by other private sector partners, including a big oil firm.

In 2006, BOC posted a net profit of P596 million against only P160 million the previous year.

Fee-based revenue rose by P447 million, or 46 percent, The bank currently has a capi- buoyed by trading gains on peso securities. Operating expenses were higher by P235 million, latory requirements, BOC is also or 11 percent, from the comparative level in 2005.





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Ajinomoto to close Pasig **MSG** factory

AJINOMOTO IS SET TO CLOSE ITS PASIG City MSG factory on Oct. 10 this year as part of a global restructuring program.

Ajinomoto Philippines Corporation (APC) will instead focus on the sales and marketing of MSG and the other Ajmomoto food products.

"Aunomoto has made the difficult but strategic business decision to close our MSG factory and to cease manufacturing operations in Pasig as part of a shift in focus by Ajinomoto headquarters to a global MSG sourcing strategy," said Yutaka Kagaya, president of APC.

Kagaya said the actions being taken concerning the Pasig factory, while regrettable, will ensure that the company can continue to grow and, in the process, support the success of its over 500 employees and the several hundred thousand wholesalers and retailers associated with the firm nation-

Kagaya said that the 271 factory employees who will be affected by the closure will be treated fairly, and will receive separation packages that are higher than what the law requires and above industry

APC has significant business relations with over 600,000 wholesalers and retailers who market and distribute APC's range of products nationwide.

It has been operating in the Philippines

"We are a well-established household brand in the Philippines and we intend to continue to play a significant role in enhancing the lives of our customers through the development and marketing of a range of value-added products that meet the

August inflation ...

needs of people throughout this nation,"

From page B1

percent; fuel, light and water, 5.1 percent from 5.3 percent; services, 1.8 percent from 2.1 percent, and miscellaneous items, 1.4 percent from 1.5 percent. Inflation for clothing was the same in July and August at 2.2 percent.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said price movements in August confirmed the central bank's outlook of a sustained benign inflation for this year. The BSP maintained a neutral monetary

policy stance during the meeting of its policy-making Monetary Board last July 12. It slashed its key policy rate to 6 percent from 7.5 percent but at the same time lifted the tiering scheme to offset the expansionary effect of the rate cut.

The tiering scheme had been implemented from May to early July to encourage banks to lend more to the public instead of parking buik of their funds with the central bank.

Explaining the BSP's decision to keep a neutral policy stance, monetary authorities said there was no reason to raise the policy rate given an outlook that inflation would remain benign. But neither should the BSP conduct an expansionary monetary policy because inflation risks, such as high liquidity growth, volatile oil prices and weather condition, remained.

"Even with this muted price movement, we shall keep a watchful eye on remaining risks to guide our conduct of monetary policy going forward," Tetangco said.

Investment bank UBS said inflation was likely to be higher due to a projected increase in oil prices and the impact of the robust economic growth in the first half

The economy, as measured by the gross domestic product, grew 7.5 percent in the second quarter from a year ago largely due to higher government spending and private sector investments. It was the economy's strongest performance in 20 years. Although a robust economic growth was a

positive event, economists said this had the negative effect of accelerating inflation. "Looking forward, headline CPI inflation

is likely to edge higher in coming months, all else equal. On top of that, stronger growth should, with a lag, put upward pressure on the inflation rate," UBS said in a research paper on the Philippine economy.

UBS said the benign inflation so far this year allowed the BSP to remain neutral and eased pressure for tightening.

"The August CPI data suggests inflation is manageable and given that the BSP believes its policy rate-setting is already at neutral, this data support our case for unchanged rates into yearend, even with better-than-expected growth. As such, belowtarget inflation allows more room for BSP to give growth a chance," UBS said.

UBS projected that over the next 18 months, inflation would remain below the BSP's target for 2008 of between 3 and 5

percent.

BUSINESS

Kepco needs supply contract before it starts building 200-MW plant

By Abigail L. Ho

KOREA ELECTRIC POWER CORP. THE parent firm of the country's second largest independent power producer, expects to operate a 200-megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant in Cebu by 2010.

A person familiar with the matter said, however, that the start of the plant's construction was hinged on the Energy Regulatory Commission's ap-

Kepco Philippines Corp. and Negros Occidental Electric Cooperative Inc.

The applied rate for the Noceco contract was placed at P4-30 a kilowatt-hour.

Other supply contracts were with the Negros Oriental Electric Cooperative Inc. and the Central Negros Electric Cooperative Inc., the source said.

"We're still waiting for the ERC's approval of our contract with our first Citibank-led consortium of banks.

proval of a power supply deal between electric cooperative partner Noceco. As soon as the approval is secured, we will issue the tender and proceed with the construction. That will take 36 months to complete," the source said, adding that the power firm hoped to start construction by early October at the latest.

The source said the plant would take between \$300 million and \$320 milhon to construct, to be financed by a

Kepco, together with Salcon Power power facility in Batangas. Corp., will put up the 200-MW coaifired power plant in Naga, Cebu.

The project will use clean coal technology, which limits the emission of harmful nitrogen oxide and sulfur oxide to environment-friendly levels.

Kepco had earlier expressed interest in bidding for the 600 MW Masinloc coal-fired power plant in Zambales and the 600-MW Calaca coal-fired

It did not push through with the bidding for Masinloc, however. Bidding for the Calaca plant would not take place until next month

Kepco's Philippine operations currently include Kepco Philippines Corp., which operates the 650-MW Malaya Thermal Power Plant in Rizal, and Kepco Ilijan Corp., which operates the 1,200-MW Ilijan Combined Cycle Power Plant in Batangas.

For MWSI, a way out of rehab

CA ruling also allows Maynilad to get on with infra work

By Arny R. Remo

THE COURT OF APPEALS HAS denied a petition of a union made up of Maynilad Water Services Inc. workers, enabling the water firm to push for an early exit from rehabilitation.

Maynilad Water Supervisors' Association had sought the help of the appeals court to prevent Judge Reynaldo Daway from hearing the rehabilitation case of Maynulad Water.

That decision would also enable Maynilad to accelerate serimprovement projects throughout the West Zone.

In a decision authored by Associate Justice Myrna Dimaranan Vidal and promulgated on Aug. 30, 2007, the CA refuted MWSA's claim that Daway had been "biased and prejudiced" against the umon, particularly on the issue of unsettled benefits.

These include the cost of living allowance and provisions of the

Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Court ruled that, through-

ceeding, the respondent judge "did not commit grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack or excess of jurisdiction," and that it did not see any "compelling reason for Judge Daway to disqualify hamself from handling the case."

MWSA on Dec. 5, 2006 filed a motion for Voluntary Inhibition of Judge Daway, on the grounds that the judge allegedly indicated paruality as he presided over Maynilad's rehabilitation case.

Judge Daway, however, maintained that the motion against him was "completely baseless," and that he acted only "in the interest of farmess and transparency to all concerned including the supervisors."

in April 2007, MWSA then filed a petition for certiorari, which resulted in the CA issuing a 60-day temporary restraining order on

The TRO effectively prevented Maynilad from exiting rehabilitation at the soonest possible time.

"While it is within the right of MWSA to file its opposition to the out the rehabilitation case pro- plan to exit from rehabilitation,



SINGSON

the effects of the TRO have become a stumbling block to the continued drive to make Maynilad truly a viable company," Maynilad president Rogelio Singson said in a statement.

Singson had since urged employees to set aside their differences, as the company could no longer delay the process which would allow Maynilad to grow, attain its targets and fulfill its

commitment to over six million customers.

The effort of Maynilad and government and banking stake holders to get the concessionaire out of rehabilitation culminated in the signing of the Prepayment and Settlement Agreement and the Transitional and Clarificatory Agreement on Aug. 9, 2007.

The different parties have been in the thick of negotiations since the new Maynilad owners, the DMCI-Metro Pacific consortium, took over in January 2007

The Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System had already endorsed the TCA to the Department of Finance, and is now awarting admowledgement by the government.

Maynilad has been under rehabilitation since it filed for concession termination in 2003, after incurring heavy losses largely due to the 1998 Asian financial crisis.

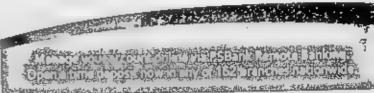
Maynilad has recovered since 2004 and, following a bid, was acquired by DMCI and MPIC in late 2006 as part of the rehabilita-



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UK-RP energy deal worth \$1.3B collapses

A \$1.3-BILLION DEAL BE- planned to build a 3.5-million tween a state-run Philippine en-metric ton bio-refinery at a cost ergy firm and British company of \$455 million, and a \$600-NRG Chemical Engineering, to million plantation for jatropha, build brofuel facilities here, has a plant material which is used in collapsed, a senior official yes- producing biofuels. terday said.

pose to form a firm with NRG million. to set up a plantation and facility for production of alternative fuels in this country. But

The official, who requested anonymity, would not say why the deal did not push through but added that NRG Chemical had decided to go with another local firm in the private sector. He would not identify that

The two firms had originally mix.

They also plan to build a PNOC-Alternative Fuels 300,000 metric ton bio-Corp. (PNOC-AFC) was sup ethanol plant at a cost of \$200

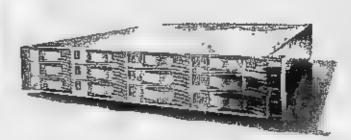
President Macapagal-Arroyo signed the Biofuels Act of 2006 early this year, hoping to reduce an official close to the talks the country's dependence on said PNOC-AFC chose not to imported crude oil in favor of alternative fuels produced lo-

> The law mandates the blending of one percent biodiesel in all diesel products starting May.

> By 2009, all gasoline products to be sold in the country should have a 5-percent ethanol



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Gov't seeks to tighten oil grip on ecozone locators

By Michelle V. Remo

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARroyo is set to issue an executive order requiring economic zone locators to regularly declare the volume of their oil importation requirements.

Finance Secretary Margarito Teves said the order, which he said should be out soon, is meant to curb technical smuggling of oil. Importation in excess of the

declared oil requirement of ecozone locators will not be allowed entry, Teves said.

Technical smuggling of oil is normally done by falsely declaring that it is imported by an economic zone locator. Locators are granted duty-free privilege as a reward for their dollar contributions to the country through exports.

on the proposed 2008 national budget, Teves told legislators that the government loses between P60 billion and P65 billion a year due to technical smuggling, largely of oil.

The government is hardpressed to plug revenue leaks, which may derail the country's effort to meet its fiscal targets. In the first half, the government reported an anemic tax take.

The government is trying to stick to its commitment to re-

duce the budget deficit to P63 billion this year, from last year's P64.8 billion, and to post a balanced budget by next year.

The executive order will be issued following the failure of the Bureau of Customs to meet, its tax and duty collection targets in the first half.

in a recent meeting between the President and Customs officials, the latter said one reason for the collection shortfall was the drop in the importation of oil.

The President, however, did not accept the excuse, saying it was impossible for oil importation to have dropped because the economy grew robustly.

Taxes are the nation's lifeblood and everyone should pay their fair share," Teves said in an earlier statement. We will all benefit from more and better In a Congressional hearing roads, well-trained and well-paid public servants, the delivery of good health services and high standards of public education."

Exceeding expectations, the economy grew 7.5 percent in the second quarter from a year ago, its strongest performance in 20 years. For the first half, economic growth averaged at 7.3 percent.

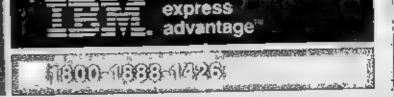
Teves said the Department of Finance, mother agency of the BOC, has directed Customs personnel to implement measures to curb the problem of smuggling.



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Business

Splash IPO price at ₱8.70-₱11.18

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS maker Splash Corp. aims to raise between Pl 9 billion and P2.5 billion from an initial public offering this year, the company said in a report to regulators.

Splash will sell 223 85 million shares at P8 70 to P11.18 each. The offer will consist of 188 84 million new shares and 35 million shares held by parent firm Splash Holdings

Splash Holdings is an investment holding company owned by Splash Group founders Rolando and Rosalinda Ang-

1.100 1.5

for 2006.

The shares to be sold to the public will represent 30 percent of the total issued and outstanding capital stock of the compa-

SB Capital Investment Corp. and First Metro Investment Corp. are the lead underwriters for the IPO.

The market value of the company based on its offer price is estimated to hit between P6.49 billion and P8.34 billion after

In its prospectus, Spiash said the funds will be spent for redevelopment and (P391 5-P503.5 million), brand management and new product Splash Holdings owns six introductions (P234.9-P302.13

Philex nets P3.1B in 7 months

By Amy R. Remo

LISTED FIRM PHILEX MINING CORP SAID it more than doubled its net income for the first seven months of the year to P3.1 billion from P1 4 billion a year ago due to higher metal prices and mine production.

"We are optimistic that this trend will continue until the end of the year," said Walter Brown, Philex chair and CBO.

Brown added that with the company's financial performance, Philex's earnings were equivalent to P1.036 per share from only P0.471 per share in the year-ago peri-

The mining firm earlier reported a net income of P2.5 billion for the first half of the year, also more than double the P1.2 billion nade in the same period in 2006.

quarter net income of P1.5 billion, nearly Padcal mine to possibly extend its mine life. trebling the P596 million in profit a year

Brown said they were optimistic of a favorable bottom line if the current prices for copper and gold and the higher metal production from ore would continue.

"Philex is (also) pursuing other mining exploration projects not only in the country but in other parts of the world as well," he

Philex has embarked on an aggressive exploration program this year to take advantage of the continuous rise in metal prices.

In Benguet, the company has started extensive exploration of the existing ore body at its mine site and surrounding prospects.

The company plans to do a drilling test at

Philex has also programmed several known porphyry copper-gold targets for exploration this year, including the Tapaya prospect and the Butan and Midway gold

prospects. In the Visayas, Philex is re-evaluating the Bulawan gold deposit located in Sipalay, Negros Occidental, for a possible resumption of the mine's operations.

Another joint venture property covered by its permit is the Lascogon project, which is a Philex-FEC Resources joint venture also located in Surigao del Norte.

Two more targets within the Lascogon project are also scheduled to be evaluated this year.

Brown earlier said that Philex was evaluating several prospective mining properties

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Atlas inks deal with Aussie firm

LISTED FIRM ATLAS Consolidated Muning and Development Corp. yesterday said its subsidiary Berong Nickel Corp. had signed a long-term laterite ore supply agreement with Queensland Nickel Pty. Ltd., a BHP Billiton com-

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, Atlas said the five-year supply agreement carried the option for Queensland to extend the term for another five years

The Queensiand contract will provide a base load for Berong's mining operations in Palawan.

"This nickel offtake agreement with a BHP group company gives the Berong nickel project both stability and status enhancement," At as president and chair Alfredo Ramos said in the disclosure to the stock exchange.

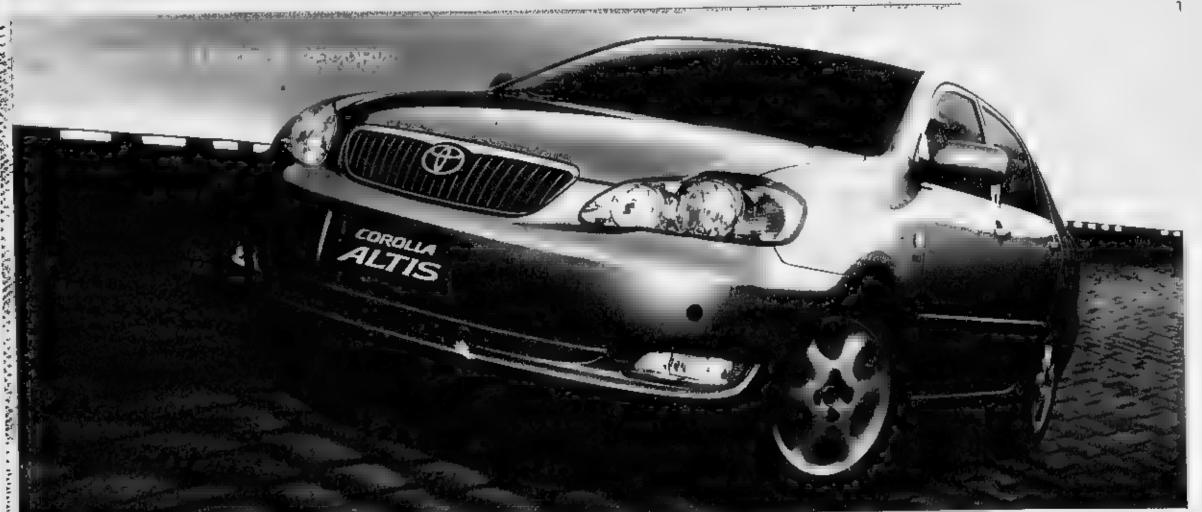
Berong, which is reported to be the fourth biggest nickel laterite resource worldwide, has an estimated reserve of 275 million dry tons with an average grade of 1.3-percent nickel

Atlas started its direct nickel ore shipments February from its Berong joint-venture project.

SOURCE TECHNISTOCK, PSE

Production is expected to increase significantly over the next three years, Ramos said.

Amy Remo





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TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 458-5500
TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 458-5500
TOYOTA CLAUSIANO, INC., 607-0707 TOYOTA BASOLOO CITY, (284) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BASUNG CITY, (004) 447-0851 / (004) 368-3273 to 747/4074) 308-4128 TOYOTA BASUNG FIRST FOR TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH 922-1257 / (027) 648-368-368 / (028) 638-770 / (027) 627-7268 / (028) 638-770 /



BUSINESS

ING to set up new equity fund

SSS plans more stock investments

By Doris C. Dumlao

Security Security System expects to increase its invest-P21.2 billion after getting a favorable investment valuation ruling from the Commission on Audit.

SSS assistant vice prestdent Ma. Luz Generoso said yesterday that the COA had issued an opinion that the limit on the fund's investments-including stock market investments-should be based on the acquisition cost prices.

If stock market investments were marked to market prices, the SSS investend June stood at P80.8 bilfund of P200 billion, thus exceeding the limit of 30 per-

But since the SSS was almarket investments are offi- ment income.

cially valued at only P38.8 billion during the same peri-THE STATE-OWNED SOCIAL od, or 19.4 percent of the reserve fund.

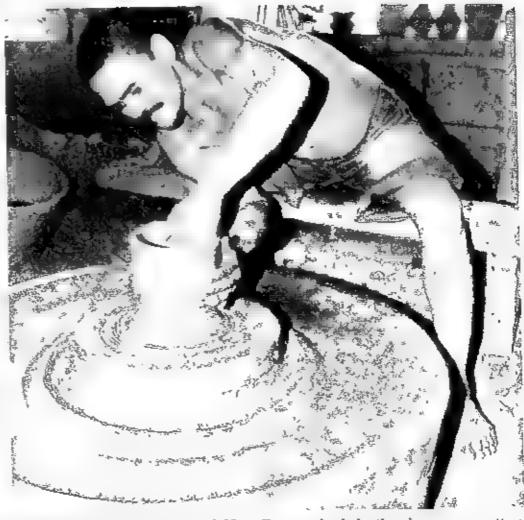
As such, Generoso said the ments in local stocks by about SSS has room to increase its stock market investments.

Base on the investment reserve fund of P200 billion, the SSS can invest about P60 billion in the stock market based on its internal limit.

The pension fund set a stock investment limit of 30 percent of the reserve fund to prevent the fund from putting too much money in the market like what hapand not current market pened during the time of ousted President Joseph E. Estrada

Shored up by huge stock market windfall, the SSS' ments in the stock market at investment income almost doubled to P15.5 billion in lion, equivalent to 40 percent the first half of the year of the investment reserve from P7.7 billion a year

Extraordinary gains from the sale of its shares in San Miguel Corp., Philippine lowed by COA to compute its Long Distance Telephone Co. exposure based on the acqui- and Ayala Land Inc. also led sition cost, the SSS' stock to the increase in its invest-



THE BURNAY (jar) making industry in Vigan City struggles during the rainy season as potters NORTHERN LUZON BUREAUTEONOO BALBIN, IR. find it difficult to dry their products.

American agency which declined to take months, as what they did with the Hyatt

Investors will get chance to invest in Asian stocks

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

ING INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP, which manages around P80 billion in assets in the Philippines, plans to put up an investment fund that will allow Filipino investors to buy Asian stocks.

ING Investment Management managing director Cesar Zulueta said on the sidelines of ING's Funds Tournament awarding ceremony in Makati yesterday that the fund manager had filed an application with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) for the planned Asian Equity Fund.

"What we want to do here on the funds side of the business is to introduce Filipino investors to a more diversified offering of investments," Zulueta said

"Sure, we know what local bonds are, what local equities are, but the market is relatively small. If we want these investors to be exposed to other types of assets, we should be there," he added

Although the size of the fund would depend on investor interest, Zulueta estimat-

ed that it would start at \$50-\$100 million. He also said that the fund will be invest ed in major stocks in Asia.

Zulueta said ING Investment Management hoped to launch the new investment product before the end of the year.

ING Investment Management operates in 12 countries in Asia-Pacific

These include Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China, Thailand, Singapore, India, Malaysia and Australia

ING Investment Management is part of the ING Group and .s ING's main asset man-

agement business unit. It has over 350 billion euros in assets under management globally for a diverse

client range, which includes institutional investors, pension funds, insurance companies, financial institutions, foundations, and retail funds throughout Europe, the Americas and Asia Pacific. Its Philippine unit-ING Investment

Management Philippines-operates as the trust department of ING Bank NV (Man.la branch), a branch office of ING Bank NV Netherlands. Present in the Philippines since 1998,

ING IM Philippines provides management services to corporate, institutional and retail chents.

ING IM Philippines launched its range of retail funds in 2003.

Its peso-denominated products are: the ING peso cash management fund (invested primarily in short term Ph. ippine government and corporate bonds), ING peso bond fund (fixed-income peso bonds), ING diversified balanced fund (in high-earning stocks and interest income paying bonds) and the ING Philippine equity fund (local

Its dollar-denominated products are the ING Philippine dollar bond fund and the ING do..ar income fund (diversified portfoho of bonds from Chile, Malaysia, Russia, Kazakhstan and other emerging markets)

Prospects are good for investment funds as the asset management business has been growing by 20-25 percent over the past five

One reason is the low yields on traditional investment vehicles, including savings accounts and government securities that forced investors to look for investments with higher returns.

BROOKE'S POINT FIND

Macroasia, Toledo to develop Palawan nickel prospects

understanding with Toledo Mining Corp. (TMC) on a proposed joint development of two nickel projects in

In a disclosure, Macroasia said the joint development involves the Infanta nickel project and the adjoining Celesual Nickel Project in Brooke's Point, Palawan.

TMC and its affiliates hold the ma-

Ualt

Dollar

Pound

Dollar

Franc

Dollar

Dollar

Dolla

Dinar'

Oolka

Rupiah

Rial

September 5, 2007

Country

United States

Hong Kong

Switzerland

Singapore

Australia

Saudi Arabia

Indonesia

Bahrain

Bruner

Çanada

United Kingdom

signed yesterday a memorandum of project, which they co-own with Ceeshal Nickel Mining Exploration

> Macroasia and TMC will undertake studies that will cover possible joint roughly 300 hectares, TMC has dework on the mining claims.

The Infanta nickel deposit extends across the common boundary areas controlled by Macroasia and TMC.

Both Macroasia and TMC have been drilling and testing their respec-

Peso

Equivalent

48,5820

0.4004

93.8115

5.9764

38.4435

30.5416

38.3644

123.5728

12 4205

30.4418

0.0049

Dollar

Equivalent

1.000000

0.008595

2.013900

0.128299

0.825287

0.655652

0.823588

2,652801

0.266538

0.653509

0.000106

LISTED FIRM MACROASIA CORP jority interest in the Celestral nickel tive areas to define the extent of the the combined properties should make laterite mineralization, nickel Macroasia said in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

> Based on drilling on an area of fined more than 60 million tons of mineralization

> It is expected that the Macroasia property has similar nickel laterite mmeralization.

The possible joint development of

beth Sanches-Lacson China's Shimao eyes ... From page B1

the production of stainless steel.

it easier for both companies to meet

all standards of responsible mining,

including environmental protection

and community and social develop-

Mining firms are aggressively

The Philippines is said to have con-

siderable untapped reserves. Eliza-

searching for nickel, which is used in

ment, Macroasia said.

Hotel at the Bund in Shanghar. BCDA Chair Aloysius Santos had said that Shimao's entry into the domestic setting would set a new standard in real estate development in the Philippines.

The China visit by Santos and Abaya was made upon the invitation of Hui, who came to Manila last March to sign a memorandum of understanding with the BCDA on a joint development of a sizable portion of land at the Global City.

Wing Mao personally reiterated his serious Abaya said this was one of the biggest cio during a recent meeting with BCDA offipartnerships of the government for property development in 2007, which would further boost the asset disposition program of Abaya said Shimao was a world-class, fast paced developer that could finish a BCDA and enhance its revenue-generating 900-room twin-tower luxury hotel in 18 capability.

Stocks close higher

it-was recently the subject of an owner-

ship dispute between BCDA and a home-

of retired Armed Porces officials.

cials in Hong Kong that month

owners' association comprised of the wives

The Supreme Court ruled in favor of BC-

DA, which is preparing to appraise the area

roward eventual disposition of the asset

through a joint venture with a private com-

and firm interest in investing in Fort Bonsfa-

Last May, Abaya said Shimao chair Hui

Index leader Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. paced the gainers, putting on P45 at P3,342.35.

Manila Electric Co. jumped P6 to P83, rebounding from earlier losses on fears lower taniffs set by government regulators would affect its bottom line.

But Ron Rodrigo of Unicapital Securities said Meraico remained fundamentally strong, noting that its earnings in the next four years were expected to remain strong

"And the company itself sees no reason why foreign investors should dump the stock," he said.

1.4245 0.030591 0.022471 Thailand Bahl 12 6840 0.200084 0.272294 Dicham JAE 1.360900 63,3934 1.000000 Euro 0.0496 0.000783 0.001065 Wor Korea 6.1701 0.0973300.132456Yuan* China 8.5139 0.134902 0.182772 Denmark Kroner 1 1423 Rupee 0.018019 0.024522India 13.2845 0.285185 0.209556Ringgil Malaysia 32,4862 0,512454 0,697399 Dollar New Zealand 6.144867 6.7482 0.106449 Kroner Sweden 0.014338 0.019512 0.9089 Pound Syrta 1.4105 0.022251 0.030281 Nt Collan Taiwan 0.000342 0.000466 Bolivar Source: Reuters' forex closing prices as of NY time—Sopt. 4, 2007

Applicable for 50% downpayment on Altis .

CURRENGLES

Equivalent

0.734808

0.006316

1.479830

0.094275

0 606427

D. 700551

0.481778

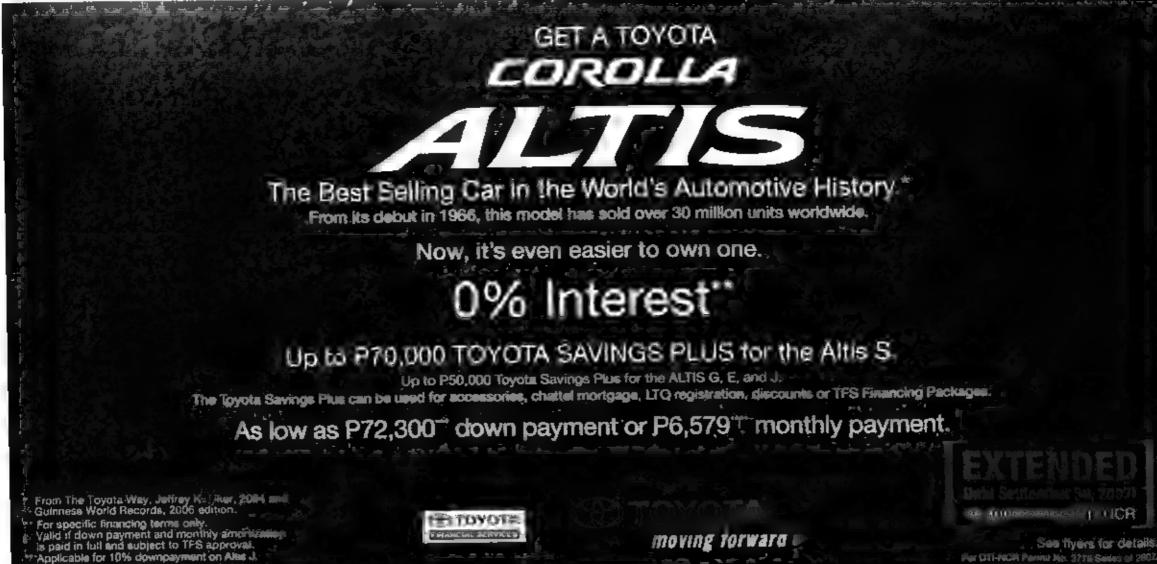
0.605179

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Baliwag Navigation, Inc.

AND STREET STREET, THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

المنافيات ويروي والمراقف المهر والمستخرف والمتراج والمساور

wishes to announce the untimely demise of

Capt. Angel Caro Sicat

Master Mariner and Senior Fleet Manager

on 03 September 2007.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz in Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. A Funeral Mass will be held on 06 September 2007 at 7:30 a.m. Interment will be held thereafter at the Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina City.

Our deepest sympathies and condolences to his bereaved wife, Mrs. Consuelo Sicat, to his daughter Atty. Aileen Sicat, and to all his relatives.

HART OF BEAUTIMES	n est et ve une	net CRMENT	ESEMATION FLACE
BENJAMIN W. LEYSA	San Francisco del Morte, Q.C.	September 8, 2007 10:00 a.m.	Elemai Garden Memoral Park
DANIEL P. ULANGCA	Chepat D	September 8, 2007 TL:00 a.m.	Pag Committee'

Notify family and friends of a loved one who had just passed away.

We accept death notices, repeating dentils of the person's wake and erment. For a very ordable fee you can ובה פעון גם בייניקיים who have been a part of the life of your dearly

For more information (02)8976425

I tell you most solemuly, whoever listens to bly word and believes in the one who sent Me has entered cternal life; without being brought to judgment he has passed from death to life."

Message of Thanks

RENJAMIN CUI ENCARNACION

of Calapan, Mindoro Oriental and La Vista, Quezon City B.S. Electrical Engineering 1950 University of the Philippines, Diliman

August 13, 1927 - August 20, 2007

We, his children: Livi Feddern, Sitoy and Edua, Bobbet and Eddie Boy Escudero, Ning and Juju Tan, Sylvia and Juy Ladenbeim, Pat and Martvic, Tesa and Ed Todem, Mati, Mita and Jim Ivey, Mino and Margo, Chuck; and grandchildren Ula and Ron, Sumi, Allos, Jim, Miko, Juan E., Ote, Jomi, Jan, Benjo, Susie, Karen, Angela, Maya, Diego, Mateo, Emilio and Sammle, thank you for your overwhelming support, love and prayers during our time of deep sorrow

requirements

HEAD OFFICE 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; **899-4425**, 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefan)

CUBAG 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora)

892-5578; 811-4361; 811 4370

KALAW 528-0213; 52T-3342

MEGAMALL 635-0219; 635-0220



on September 03 2007 at the uge of 64

Her remains lie in state at Sanctuarium, No. 739 Quezon Avenue. Quezon City.

Cremation will be on September 10, 2007, 11:00 am at Sanctuarium Crematory, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

, shall dwell or the basic of the Cord forces

MAMERTA PEREYRAS vda. de CONCEPCION

peacefully returned to the loving embrace of her Creator & her hosband ALEXANDER C. CONCEPCION (*) a September 01 2007 at the age of 85

ser children Bouglas Sr. & Dianne (†). Alma & Numong, Rudy (†) & Klas. Hing, Brenard & Lorie, ber genuichstaten Frank & Jess, Hanz & Khrk, Cristy Douglas Jr. Aries & Khrm, Jay Sweetscart Alagall & Coy Badette, Carlo, Nicko, Kristle, Marco and bergreat-genuchtiden Angel, Sarah, Arriane, Kevin and Migo, relatives and friends request your prayers for the escenal repose of her woul

Her remains lie in state at hor residence in Sobrecary St., Tagum City.

laterment shall be on Sundry, September 9, 2007 at Giornous Memorial Park, Tagum City offer the 1.30 p.m. Mass at the New Chrost the King Cathedral. Togum City.

of Nueva Ecija and Taguig City Peacefully pointed our Lord on September 02, 2007 at the age of 83

His wife HERMINIA (†); children and inlows NILO and ALICE, GIL and MYLEANE, ALEX and TIMA; grandsons RYAN, KENNETH IAN, KEVIN, PATRICK and ANDRE SAN GABRIEL and BELTRAN FAMILIES, relatives and friends request the readers to proy for his soul.

His body lies in state at Chapel 3, Garden of Memories Memorial Chapels, Paterns, Metro Manils.

Interment will be on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007 at the Garden of Memories Memorial Park after the celebration of the 2:00 p.m.

"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Jehr 14:6

People, Events & Products

Deadline for Panasonic's The Art of Life photo contest extended

RANASONIC EXTENDS ITS TARGET FOR THE "THE ART OF LIFE BY PANASONIC" PHOTO CONtist up to Sept. 30. Ралазопіс hopes to highlight photographic excellence that is distinctly Pinoy as the creative flair of many Filipinos behind the lens will be put to the test. Explore and tinker on motion, colors and angles vis-à-vis life's greatest wonders like travel, music, feshion, sports, careers, family-oriented concepts and other daily occurrences in the urban and rural settings, highighting the "art of life" present in both the traditional and modern ways of living. After "The Art of Life by Panasonic" finalists are chosen, they will continue their artistic quest through a depiction of "Panasonic in the life of the consumers" by going to the nearest Panasonic dealers and gertray Panasonic's contribution to the Filipino way of life. Only one entry per photographer is alwed. Any type or brand of camera can be used in the contest. Each entry should be both in an Unmounted printed sample sizes placed in flat packages or malting tubes and in digital files in CD format. Place your name, address and contact numbers on the back of the envelope for your submitted entries. Entries will be judged according to creativity, resevence to theme, quality of presentation and visual impact. First prize winner will receive P50,000, second prize winner P30,000 and the third prize winner P15,000. The top three winners will also receive their own Panasonic camera each. Interested individuals may send their entries to Full Circle Communications at 16/F Beivedere Tower, San Miguel Ava. Ortigas Center, Pasig City.



NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.

Republic of the Philippines **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Center for Health Development - Zamboanga Peninsula MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur

Project Reference Number _MRH-001-2007 Name of the Project, Procurement of Goods

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL, through its Bids and awards Committee (BAC). Invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Location Brief Description

Delivery Period

Name of the Project . Procurement of Goods Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur

Drugs and Medicines, Medical Supplies, Dental Supplies and Laboratory Supplies, X-Ray, Hospita, Equipments.

Approved Budget

For the Contract Contract Duration

. Fourteen Million (14.000.000.00)

Six (6) months Date of deavery is reflected on the approved Purchase Order (P.O.)

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The Complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

	Activities	Schedule
1.	Issuance of Bid Documents	September 6, 2007
2	Pre-Bid Conterence	September 14, 2007
3,	Submission of Letter of Intent and Application for Etigibility	September 24, 2007
4	Opening of Blds	September 25, 2007
1 5	Bid Evaluation	September 26, 2007
- S-	Post-qualification	October 10-14, 2007
7.	Notice of Award	October 15-29, 2007

Bid Documents will be available only to eligible bidders upon payment of a nonrefundable amount of Three Thousand Pesce (P3,000.00) to the Margosatubig Regional Hospital Cashler.

The Margosatubio Regional Hospital assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL MR. QUIRING L. BRIONES, MPA

Acting BAC Secretariat Poblacion Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur Contact No. 09209380178

(PDI - Sept. 2 & 6, 2007)

(Sgd.) DANILO D. ALFARO, M.D. BAC Chalman

Michelis moves to new Greenhills location MICHELIS, THE TOP BRAND FOR HIGH-QUALITY STER-

ling silver Jawetry and accessories, moves its Greenhills branch to a new and better location. Michelis fans can now find their favorite Michelis Greenhills branch to the fresh ambiance, invigorating and bustling 2nd floor of Shoppesville This new location better showcases Michelis' jewellery. Michells offers the widest variety of premium sterling saver jewellery for the discriminating market, from the traditional jewellery pieces to extraordinary silver gift items. With this new location, Michelis has also dedicated part of its store to It's new Men's jewellery line: Miche. The move also brings Michelis' products closer and more accessible to loyal patrons and silver jewelry fanatics alike. It is all part of the company's goal to bring to fore the ingenuity and excellence of Filiping craftsmanship not just to global audiences but most importantly, among fellow Filipinos as well. Michelis has been producing world-class silver pieces since the brand's launch in 1998. Other Micheus shops and boutiques can also be found in Greenbelt 1, Lifestyles at the Power Plant, Rustan's Harrison Plaza and Ermita, Rustan's Alabang Town Center, Rustan's Tower Shangri-La Plaza, and at the lobbies of Mandarin Criental Hotel and Shangri-La Hotel, Makati

Marist Homecoming

THE SILVER JUB LARIANS OF MARIST SCHOOL CLASS of 1982 present their plans for the Grand Alumai Homecoming on Sept. 6, to Bro. Pat S. Corpus, FMS, president of Marist School in Marikina. The event is presented by HSBC, In cooperation with Globe, Johnnie Walker, and Adidas Registration starts at 5 p.m. at the Marist Grade School Gym. For inquiries contact Tony Bobls at 0921-6988120.

Finance educators to be cited

FINANCE EDUCATORS WHO HAVE MADE A MARK IN THE lives of Filipino students can now be recognized for their noble efforts through the Rafael B. Buenaventura Outstanding Finance Educator Awards Program which was recently launched at the Hotel Intercontinental Established under the auspices of the Business Education Committee of the Finex Foundation and Citi Philippines with funding from the Citi Foundation in New York, the awards are open to a Fillpino citizen teaching finance and/or finance related courses in a Philippine school that was a finalist in the last preceding inter-Collegiate Finance Competition (ICFC), according to Federico K. Maramba, chair of the Business Education Committee of the Finex Foundation. Maramba said that "to qualify, a candidate must be nominated by his or her school, has been a full-time finance educator for at least five years, has earned Very Satisfactory ratings during the period, and fulfills other requirements specified in the General Guidelines of the Rafaei B. Buenaventura Outstanding Finance Educator Awards Program". The deadline for submission of the application is on Oct. 31. For more details, interested parties may cali/write to Finex Foundation, Unite 310 Atrium Bidg, Makati Avenue, Makati City, tel nos. (02) 811-4052, (02)811-4184, (02)811-4186 fax (02)811-4185, e-mail, admin@finex.org.ph.

New US slimming product enters RP

HYDROTRIM, RECENTLY LAUNCHED INTO THE MARKET BY Mega Lifesciences Pty Ltd, is touted as the country's first orange-flavored stimming beverage to the Filipino consumers. The secret to Hydrotzim's success as a slimming drink, however, is not its taste but its active ingredient, Super Citrimax, a propriety formulation made to the United States that comes from the extract of the trult Garcinia Cambogla and its unique blend in Hydrotrim. The extract contains 70 percent Hydroxycltric Acid, a natural organic acid similar to the one found in citrus fruits like oranges and lemons but with remarkably different properties. While citric acid is beneficial to the human body because it acts as a natural preservative and an anticid-

dant, Hydroxycitric Acid, when mixed with other naturally occurring chemicals present in Hydrotrim, is better because it burns fat and controls the body's intake of carbohydrates and sugars that are often converted into unsightly flab. Hydrotrim is an easy and convenient way to aliminate fat and maintain figure since it is available in powered format and packaged in sachets and can be prepared in seconds since it easily dissolves in a glass of water, just like a regular orange drink. In order to effectively frim down or maintain lean, healthy bodies, individuals are advised to consume at least two sachets of Hydrotrim everyday 3D minutes before every meal. The product is also readily available in Mercury outlets and most major drugstores at an affordable price, attesting the company's mission of improving human health by providing quality medicines and health products at the right price. For more information about Hydrotrim and other Mega Lifesciences products, call 02-894-1111 or email hydrotrim.php@megawecare.com

Invincibility for every nation

MAHAR SHI MAHESH YOGI INTRODUCED THE TRANSCENdental Meditation technique 50 years ago and has brought entightenment to millions of people around the world. Today, he is offering invincibility to al. the 192 nations of the world. invincibility for the nation means a life free from negativity, only positivity for the whole population. Affluence and Integrity will prevail in national life. Maharishi is inviting the wealthy patriotic citizens of our country to participate in the building of a Tower of Invincibility, a historic monument that will mark the dawn of Invincibility in the Philippines. The 12-story tower, preferably to be built in the best park of the capital city, will have at its base an invincibility School whose students will create invincibility for the country. The students will receive ideal education and become enlightened leaders of the country. Through Maharishi's Vedic technologies, Transcendentar Meditation and the TM-Sidhi program that includes Yogic flying, the students will unfold their full potential as they create an influence of harmony throughout society. Those who will participate by donating funds for the construction of the Tower of invincibility will be honored as Foundars of invincible Philippines. This tower, standing as a pride of the nation, will perpetuate their names in fulfilling the most desirable requirement of all times - invincibility for a problem-free life Those interested to participate can contact Dr. Policronio Castillo at (02)633-1274. Dr Castillo is chair of the Maharish. Global Administration through Natural Law Foundation of the Philippines Inc, the local organization teaching Transcendenta. Meditation in the Philippines for the past 33 years.

Nutrilite's global spokesperson INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS FEDERATIONS

(IAAF) 110-meter hurdles world record holder Liu Xlang has been named global spokesperson for Nutrilite, the world's leading brand of vitamin, mineral and dietary supplements. With this appointment, Liu joins 100 meter sprint world record holder Asafa Powell as the high-profile athletes to represent Nutrilite. The cooperation between Nutrilite and Liu Xiang will be extremely comprehensive. As a leader in research and development on health and nutrition, Nutrilite has fielded scientists who will work closely with the Chinese Track and Reld Association to provide Liu with excellent and thorough consulting services. Liu Xiang's story is one of setting and achieving goals. He is looking forward to competing with other world track stars during the year and the much-articipated 2008 Baijing Olympics. Thanks to a winning partnership with Nutrilite, Liu Xiang definitely looks poised to break and set more records in the coming years. Nutrilite products are exclusively distributed by independent Business Owners of Amway, a global leader in the direct-selling business.

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want the this production with the same of

National Transmission Corporation INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of Transmission Steel Towers and Line Materials including installation for the Restoration of Damaged Portion of the Nage - Tayabas 500kV Transmission Line Project (Sp7.TSTNTTL_Lt-0112)

- The NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (TRANSCO) through its Annual Corporate Budget, Intends to apply the sum of Philippine Peace 189,700,000.00 for the Supply and Delivery of Transmission Steel Towers and Line Materials Including Installation for the Restoration of Dameged Portion of the Naga Tayabas 500kV Transmission Line (Sp07 TSTNTTL.U-0112) being the Approved Sudget for the Contract (ASC) to payments under the contract (ASC) to payments under the contract for the above project. Blds received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
- TRANSCO now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the Supply and Delivery of Transmission Steel Towers and Line Materials including Installation for the Restoration of Demaged Portion of the Nage Tayabas 500kV Transmission Line. Delivery and installation of the GOODS is required within 240 calendar days from contract effectivity The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section 1B of the Bidding Documents, ITB
- Bidding will be conducted through open compelitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Ad 9164 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Ad," and is open to Flipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations, and to Foreign bidders. Only Bids from Skiders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section it of the Bidding Occuments, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stege in order to finally determine the bid's responsiveness to the technical and linancial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) determined after the conduct of the post-qualification evaluation.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from TRAKSCO and Inspect the Bidding Documents at the address stated in Item 10 starting September 3, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address stated below and upon payment of a non refundable lee in the amount of Philippine Peec 29,000.00. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his Buthorized representative.
- TRANSCO will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on September 26, 2007, 9:00 a.m. at C. U. Del Rosario Function Half B & C. Power Training Center Building, National Transmission Corporation, Quazon Avenue comer BIR Road, Dillman, Quazon City, Metro Manile, Philippines
- Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the venue of the bid opening stated in term 8 on or before 9:00 a.m. of October 9, 2007 All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form and in the amount specified in Section III of the Bidding Documents, BDS. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
- Bid opening shall be held on October \$, 2007, 8:00 a.m. at C. U. Del Rosario Function Hall 8 & C. Power Training Center Building, National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines, Blds will be opened in the presence of the Biddars' representatives.
- TRANSCO reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder/s
- Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the BAC Secretariat at the following address:

Mr Richard D. Nebong Manager Bids and Contracts Management Department (BCMD) Ground Floor, TransCo Main Building, Power Center National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner 81R Road 1164 Dilman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, PHILIPPINES Tel. Not., (632) 921-2306, 961-2212, 981-2213; Telefax No. (632) 981-2308

> (Sgd.) ATTY NOEL Z. DE LEON Chairman **Bids and Awards Committee**

(PE1 Aug. 30 & Sept. 6, 2007)

Email address irdnabong@transco.ph

http://www.trensco.ph

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pursuant to the Labor Code and Ornoibus Rules implementing the Code

This license shall be valid in the Philippines for the period 28 July 2007 to 27 July 2009 unless sooner revoked, cancelled or suspended for violation of the Labor Code and related issuances. Transfer or use by any other person or entity tenders this license nutt and void.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of National Capital Region, Department of Labor and Employment, to be affixed at the City of Manila, Philippines, this 18th day of July 2007

(Sgd.) ISABEL G. PANGANHAN-ORTIGUERRA **Acting Regional Director**

(PDI - Sept. 88, 2807)



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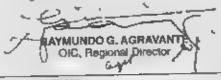
Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT **National Capital Region**

DY Int'l Bldg., 1650 San Marcelino cor. General Malvar St., Malate, Manila NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S

FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S) Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permit/s.

with this Regional Office applica		
Name and address of Company/Employer	Parelyn Hatlerel	- Certion
MY COMPANY BPO INT'L., INC. Unit 507 East Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange, Exchange Road, Ortigas, Pasig City	Jae Yegn Cho Konaan	Madeeing Menager
OMBON PRECISION TECHNOLOGY CO. LTO. 9F RCSC Plaza, Tower II, Ayale Avanue, Mekali City	Tyro Yamashiin Japaneen	Overseas Expetriale - Sentur Manager
MISS EARTH JEWELRY STORE China City Gold Center Ongoin Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila	Jingjing Lin Chinese	Sales Menager
BRILTOP ARTESTIC METAL DESIGN 653 Tomas Mapus St., Sta. Cruz, Manda	Yu Sur Chinese	Manager
MYFLOT VENTURES, INC. Unit 805-806 One Corporate Plaza Building, Amaiz Ave., Legespi Village, Mahati City	Jin Han Kim Kowan	Castomer Cart Manager
ZTE PHILIPPINES, INC. 25/F Pacific Star Birty., Sen. Gil Puyet Ave., cor. Makati Are., Makati City	Fel Uti Chinene	Technology Support Engineer
OTSUKA (PHILIPPINES) PHARMACEUTICAL, INC. IGng's Court II Bidg. 2129 Chino Roces Avenue,	Micha Environ Japanese	Executive Assistant
METROBANK CARD CORPORATION 11/F Metrobank Card Center, 8778 Ayala Avenus, Mekeli City	Brian Charles Herizar Australian	
METROBANK CARD CORPORATION 11/F Metrobank Card Center 6778 Ayaka Avenus, Makati City	Australium	Senior Managing Director
ZTE PHILIPPINES, INC. 25/F Pacific Star Bldg. Sen. Gil Puyst Ave., cor Makati Ave., lifelati City	Jidong Shi Chinese	Engineer
ACCENTURE, INC. MSE Building, Ayalia Avenue, Makasi City	Vinta Sachin Jainwal Indian	Level C/Omeultani
ZTE PIBLIPPRIES, INC. 25/F Pacific Star Bidg., Sen. Gil Puyet Ave cor. Makeli Ave., Maketi City	Jiangjiang Wang Chinesa	Engineer
ACCENTURE, INC. MSE Building, Apala Amenus, Makati City	Lisa Mae Clemanin Amencan	Global Recruiting Yearn / Marria Recruiting Lead
OHENGLISH SUNSHIME POWER EASY & FUN ENGLISH (PE & FE), INC. 408 Wack-Wack Twin Tower, Wack-Wack Road, Mandakayong City	Young Hee Chol Korean	Operations Monage
SPORTS BOOKIE ONLINE INC. 24/F Burgundy Corporate Tower, 252 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue,	Mei Ving Ong Malaysima	Technical Support Officer

If you have any information/objection to the abovementioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director



ERRATUM

EXPLATIONS FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT
PERMITTS of the DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE-NOR)
published Sept. 3, 2007, the name of Thierry Alban Tokele, Existence Service
Representative of HMM BUSINESS NERVICES, DEC was mitapelled.

(PDI-September 6, 2007)

ISABELA I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Tel. No. (078) 6527103/6627903/9627810 Fax No. (078) 6627103/6627917

The Isobelia I States Cooperative, Inc. (ISELCO I) wishes to lovide into Public Budding for the Supply/Delivery and Research Report of the Informaated suppliers for

QUANTITY PARTICULARS Automatic Voltage Regulator. XVR Control Panel Model: IJ/2A (SIEMENS-ALLIS) Model: U.Z.A. (SREAMERS-ALLIS)
Bigrand reter
b) Service Drop Wiles,
Duptes: #6 ACSIR, E/h
Loca, Brands
d) Sociael Base. Rang Types, 109 Arres.
Telo 3ub 4 james
f) Reward/Repair & Comerts storing of
450 kVA. Brines phase, 450 Volt generation
files of 1 3 hore. 3 units 50,000 meters 1,000 pcs

Winght, 3 forst Note for term of Site Inapposition at Mini-Hydro, Viza Beltran, Ramon Line Fusainti, Universal Bullon Head Type K, 2-4-5-8-10-12-15-20-25-30 Amp. Brand HUBBEL, A B CHANCE, S & C Transformer C^{MI} 1 unit \$30 pers. elech

Transformer CB Branct HBRAX 20 dames pears a revolution of the Type. Committeed 25 MM. Transformer. Pale Type. Conventional 37 S kVA. Transformer. Poly Type. Conventional 50 kVA. Transformer. Pole Type. Conventional, 75 kVA. Transformer, Pole Type, Convenience, 75 kVA 5 units 6
Installater Pin Type (Double Groove) SS-5. Cut-out with America Constitution Brand new Brand, HE/BEEL - A B CHANCE 3 Bott Clamp Guy HD Eye Nut 545 Serspay Glovia Servicia Struckle Anchor Spool Insulator 1-18 Clamp Loop Deadand 250 pcs. 200 pcs. 250 pcs. Special Insulator 1 To Claren Loop Detected Eye Bott Over 5-6x5 Conductor Barn Witer 47 ACSR (Local) Erendit) Insulated Witer 37 (Local Brands) Copper Wite 5 stat Conductor Contynicators VHO 100 Connector Contynicators VHO 150 Connector Contynicators VHO 250: Local Live Contynicators VHO 250:

200 ocs. Hot Life Ching Oli Punication & Degenification of SMVA Substation Power Translations of Resident INSPERSION, is about.

Note for stem on: Contractor shall provide their own generator for three-phase electricity.

Interested parties rany securetal decorates, and checkful of questionals are equipments at the office of the PEAC Security at the France Manager's Other and took for Ms. Leah Gardin or cell parties (078) 8627917 or cell Egg. Resisto N. Villacovym at Cel. No. 00189220973. The actockées of building activities are as follows:

PARTICULARS DISTERTME Suptamber 67 - Suptamber 50, 1967 8:50 AM 4:50 PM legement of his documents/chiefilish of quantization requirements September 21, 2007 / 9:00 Avi Pre-Qualification Contactinos September 21, 2007 / 1:00 PM Substitution / Opening of Birts Charlest of Qualification Propingments and the following: (to be submitted during the procation conference)

Non-retundable fling fee in the amount of Those Thousand Pegos Only (PS,000.00) in the form of cash.

your or Cash.
Comparis set of logal documents of the company, SEC Registration. Actions of incorporation
products are company gradie business registration and incertis papers
consists a product from any (Balance Showt and Income Statement) duty Studietamped

received by BRT.

4) It represented by an agent of the time, it could have a letter of Authorization from the Proposite/Manager or Corner.

5) A fed Board arrounding to 10% of the light associated and service requirements.

The ISELCO I reserves the right to report any or all buds for valid and justified reason, while any deflect the some arginistic an award to the budder whose proposal is most advantageous to the cooperative inSELCO II Meavest existence no obligation for whatever losses that may be incurred by the budders in the preparation of the budget in the property of the budget in the preparation of the budget in the budget

(Sgd.) Mr. Orlando S. Ramil PSAC Charmen

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Please be advised that REDENTOR "JUN" Q. CAJAYON JR. is no longer connected with PGA Cars, Inc. effective August 15, 2007. Any transaction entered into by the above person for and on behalf of PGA Cars, inc. from the said date shall not be honored.

PDS-Sept. 4 & 2, 2007)

Republika ng Pilipinas KAGAWARAN NG KALUSUGAN PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN SA NUTRISYON (NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL)
Nutrition Building, 2332 Chino Roces Avenue Extension
Taguig City. Philippines



INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BIO

The National Nutrition Council (NINC) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder

Name of Protect

Approved Budget for the Contract Source of Fund

Supply of Five (5) Units of Vehicles for Regions - NCR, V. D. X. XIII
P3.900.000.00
A:SAP Must have experience of traving completed within the tast three (3) consecutive years [August 2004-August 2007), a single contract that is similar to the contract to be bid, whose value must be at least 50% of the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to be bid:

a) the prospective bidder should have completed at least three (3) similar contracts and the aggregate contract amount should be equivalent to at least 50% of the ABC of the project to be bid.

The largest of these similar contracts must be equivalent to at least 25% of the project to be bid;

The company of the prospective bidder has been in experience for at least Pres (3) consecutive years prior to this edvertisement.

Stading will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using nondiscretionary "passfail" criteria as specified in the "implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRIR-A) of Republic Act No. 9164" otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act." All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid confusions and support of protection about the constitutions and the constitutions of CA Co. 44 evaluation and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of RA 9184.

The achedule of activities is as follows.

Activities Issuance of Bid Documents and Pre-Bid Conference | September 13, 2007 at 1:00 pm Submission/Receipt/Opening of Etigibility and September 25, 2007 at 1:00 pm Bid Envelopes

Bid Documents will be available only to eligible bidders upon payment of a non-rehandable amount of One Thousand Pasos (P1,000.00) to NNC Cashier. The award of the project shall be based on the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid received The NNC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to enrul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the effected Bidder or Bidders.

For inquiries, please and the BAC Secretarial at telephone Nos. 843-5834 843-5856 or visit our office at NNC Building, 2332 Chino Roces Avenue Extension, Taguig City.

(Sgd.) CAROLINA BAUTISTA-BATALLONES BAC Chataperson

(PDE - Sept. 4, 2007)

Keppel Philippines Marine **Management Trainee**

Keppel Philippines Marine, Inc. (KPMI) is a member of a 20yard strong global network owned by Singapore-based Kepper Offshore & Marine Ltd., one of the world's largest offshore and marine groups.

In line with its commitment to serve the community and promote the offshore and marine industry, KPMI is offering a Management Trainee Program that will provide intensive training in any of our local shipyards or overseas, to graduates and graduating college students of the following courses-

1. Mechanical Engineering

2. Industrial Engineering 3. Civil Engineering

4. Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

5. Business Administration

6. Accountancy

7. Information Technology

Equivalent courses

Please send your resumé with supporting cradentials via email to "grouphr@keppelpm.com" with the subject "2007 Management Trainee Program." You may also submit your application in person at the address shown below:

Keppel Philippines Marine, Inc. Unit 3-B Country Space 1 Bidg. Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Salcedo Village Makati City

Deadline for submission of applications is on 12 September 2007. Qualified applicants will be called to come for an interview on 18 September 2007. Know more about our company by visiting our website at www.keppelphilippinesmarineanc.com.

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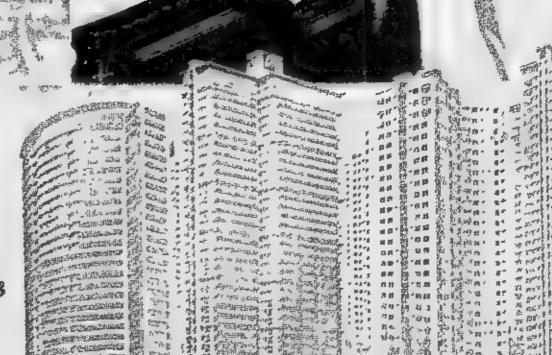


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IN THIS ISSUE Step-by-step Pinoy Paella/C4 **B** Haute couture

desserts/D4

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS & TUESDAY FITNESS & WEDNESDAY 2BU & THURSDAY FOOD & FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY



MANGOSTEEN is probably the most coveted fruit from Southeast Asia at present.

PHOTO PROHIVAVA HEPAL TACOMMANGOXANINGREDI-BITS OF MANGOXANLHTML

Its flavor is complex—sweet, sour, creamy, plus it contains all the good stuff that promotes good health



The queen becomes an international star

AN YOU TELL ME HOW TO MAKE MANGOSteen puree/juice since I grow fruits in my farm and I want to put up a business such as chilled juice blends?

ROSELLER MIYAKE

Mangosteen, queen to durian's king, is perhaps the most covered fruit from Southeast Asia in the international market roday, selling for as much as US\$45 per pound in special-

ty food stores in New York. No fruit to date can be more in vogue.

What makes mangosteen so fashionable? For starters, no fruit is as complex in flavor sweet, sour, creamy, containing all the good stuff that promotes good health

A many splendored thing indeed is the queen! It contains xanthones, known to science as the most powerful of antioxidants, substances that combat disease-causing oxygen free radicals.

It is said there are 210 xanthones in nature and more than 40 are found in mangosteen. Remarkably, it is the whole fruit, not just the flesh, that is packed with xanthones.

Since 600 AD, mangosteen has been known as a healing agent and was used by scribes in Southeast Asia. The rind was sliced and dried, pulverized and taken as an herbal concoction, for external use, it was made into an ointment. The rind was also steeped in water overnight and drank as tea.

Though some studies say the health benefits of mangosteen have not been established conclusively, many swear by its healing powers.

According to Dr. Ray Saheiian, MD, studies point out "mangosteen has compounds with antioxidant, antibacterial, antifungal, and antitumor activity. Laboratory testing thus far indicates that extracts of mangosteen have activity against several cancer cell lines including breast, liver and leukemia. Mangosteen also appears to have antihistamine and anti-inflammatory prop-

Personally, I think you do not lose any-

thing if you use it as a supplement. Whether or not the fruit is all that it is heralded to be, the fact remains that England's Queen Victoria offered a knighthood to anyone who could present her the mangosteen. In the end, as far as this purple gem is concerned, it is the flavor that makes for all its splendor.

Here are your recipes. I don't know if you wanted a fruit juice or the juice that consists of the rind. Hope it's fruit juice you're searching for.

To prepare pulp. Remove fruit pericap/peel and separate frut from seed.

Store in an airtight container. Freeze pulp until needed.

Mangosteen Juice

1/3 c mangosteen pulp 1/2 c simple syrup (1 c water/11/2 c sugar, boil until slightly thick)

1 c crushed ice Process in a blender. Serve garnished with mint leaves.

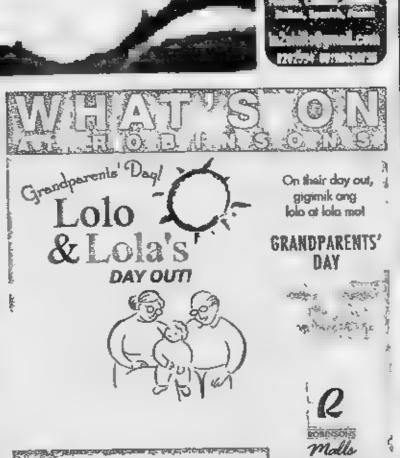
Blanded Little Drink:

1/3 c mangosteen pulp 1/3 c milk or yogurt

sugar, honey or syrup Process in a blender. Serve garnished

with mint leaves. And this, though not a drink, remains one of my favorite things to do with man-

THE QUEEN C3





#313667/6377643 #\$71335/8673539 #815333/6473616 9895429/9764215



LIFESTYLE

Sautéing made easy

healthy and tasty sauces, mixes and other cooking ingredients, Mama Sita's now makes the age-old practice of sautéing easier and faster without sacrificing flavor.

With Mama Sita's Pang Gısa Mix, housewives and working moms need not chop, slice and dice to come up with great-tasting ginisa. Cooking is as easy as opening a packet.

Mama Sita's Pang Gisa Mix is made from natural ingredients, like pure chicken extract and choice

KNOWN FOR ITS LINE OF spices, organically grown by small farmers in villages and communities. It has no MSG.

The blend of spices and ingredients in the Pang Gisa Mix follows the secret recipe of Teresita "Mama Sita" Reyes, founder of Mama Sita's.

A budget-friendly, premium product, Pang Gisa Mix can make even plain or fried rice more exciting. It also provides a rich essence to soups and broths. It is available in 10-g

Mama Sita shares the Following recipes using Pang Gisa Mix with

Banana Blossom Torta

(Makes 6 servings)

2 tbsp vegetable oil 1 pc onion, chopped

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 pc puso ng saging (haba), mmced

1 pouch Mama Sita's Pang Gisa Sauté Mix

1 thsp wansoy, fresh

1 tbsp cuchay, chopped

3 pc eggs, medium-size, beaten 1 thep spring onions, chopped

14 cup singkamas chopped

1. Sauté the garlic and onions and add the banana blossoms.



GINATAANG Santol

Mix in Mama Sita's Pang Gisa Mix Foo Yung. to intensify the flavor of the ingredients.

3. Add singkamas, wansoy and cuchay. Sauté for a minute.

4. Remove from heat. Set aside to cool before adding eggs and spring

Pan-fry the mutture until golden

Serve hot with Brown Sauce.

Garnish with spring omons, red bell peppers, and fried bihon.

Brown Sauce

1¼ c water

1 tbsp sugar

4 thsp oyster sauce 2 tsp cornstarch

3 cloves garlic, chopped

1 rbsp ginger, grated

I thep spring onions, chopped 1 rbsp oil, vegetable

1. Heat oil and sauté garlic until

cook until thick

3. Serve hot with Banana Blossoms

Ginataang Santol

(Makes 4-5 servings) 9 pc santol pulp, peeled, seeded and

diced

1 c kakang gata

1 pc siling pang sigang, sliced diago-

1 pouch Mama Sita's Pang Gisa Sauté mix

Siling labuyo for garnish

1. Soak the santol in water (to pre-

vent darkening) Set aside. 2. Combine water and 1/2 cup kakang

gata in a casserole or pan. Bring to a boil with constant stirring. 3. Drain the santol and squeeze out

the water, then add santol 4. Add the silt and Mama Sita's Pang Gisa mix. Cook over low heat with con-

stant stirring until thick. Add the remaining gota and cook Add rest of the ingredients and for a minute. (Don't overcook to avoid curdling the sauce).

Serve hot immediately.

Chefs' secrets revealed

SAN MIGUEL PURE Foods-Great Food Solu-(SMPF-GSF) brings back one of the country's top culmary experts, Chef Heny Sison, to share her culinary expertise once more at this year's Asia Food Expo Sept. 5-8 at the World Trade Center, Pasay.

Together with Sison, distinguished Japanese, Korean and Filipino chefs from the Heny Sison Culinary School will feature various products of San Miguel Pure Foods in an array of mouthwatering creations, ranging from authentic Oriental dishes to the most sinful of desserts.

"Favorite titled Aptly Restaurant and Café Recipes. Decoding the Chefs' Secrets," the audience will surely make tasty discoveries in the cooking and baking demo Sept. 8, 1:30 p.m., as the guest chefs reveal the secrets behind favonte restaurant and café recipes, while whipping together a sumptuous feast at

the Afex main activity area. **Budding food entrepreneurs** and food and cooking enthusiasts are encouraged to drop by our Business Opportunities Series Sept. 6, 2:30 p.m., as San Miguel Pure Poods Great Food Solutions share trade secrets which would definitely add to their food knowledge and skills, and give an extra boost to business

"We encourage food enthustasts to come and explore opportunities on how San Miguel Pure Foods GFS, the total food solutions provider of the top industry players for food chains, hotels, caterers, and restaurants, can help them in their business operations," said Helene Pontejos, GFS general manager.

"Our team of food experts their own clients."

The 16th International Exposition on Food Processing, Packaging and Handling Machinery, Equipment and Technology will house together a comprehensive showcase of food facilities and expertise-from the best of the country's food equipment and top food ingredients manufacturers and suppliers, to cultnary activities and demonstra-

will be there to help them identify solutions to grow their business better, and establish a distinct characteristic for their food offerings for

"From cooking and baking demonstrations to opportunities to sample great-tasting and easy-to-do recipes crafted by the chefs from the San Miguel Pure Foods Culinary Center using San Miguel branded food products such as Pure Foods Hormel, Magnolia, Monterey, San Mig Coffee, San Miguel Mills Pre-mixes, and Great Food Solutions Cook Express," Pontejos promises these exciting activities that await attendees of this year's Asia Food Expo.

THE CONSUMER

A game no longer worthy of generals

By Linda B. Bolido

READER JERA SISON IS DISMAYED BY the "shabby" treatment Filipinos give to local inventions.

BANANA Blossem Fee Yung

He notes "the sad plight of our homegrown Filipino inventors and to think that the unfair treatment is coming from their own kalahi, kapwa Filipino."

Sison is referring in particular to the Game of the Generals (GG) invented by the late Ronnie Pasola Jr., as an alternative to the foreign game board thess.

"I clearly remember the first time I saw a set of the GG. It was packaged [like] a chessboard... contained in a wooden case... with square boxes in gray and white," he says.

"Inside are [flat metal pieces marked] with different military ranks. The game is very simple but interesting to play... It's a mind game similar to poker," Sison adds. But the "new" version of the GG is a dis-

appointment, he says. The glistening metal pieces with artistic etchings are gone, as well as the beautiful wooden case.

"What are being sold now are mediocre plastic or metal pieces and paper markers. With the substandard quality of products ... now being manufactured, how can one expect brilliant [Filipino] inventions to be recognized and appreciated by present or future generations?" Sison asks.

The new version, he says, is made of cheap plastic. "I can only imagine the annoyance of players using this kind of inferior light materials. A sudden gust of

The glistening metal pieces with artistic etchings and beautiful wooden case are gone

wind... will totally 'annihilate' the game, toppling everything."

Sison says whoever owns the rights to manufacture the GG, "proudly a product of Filipmo creativity," should redesign the game and "do justice to its inventor. I hope this is not a reflection of the current state of the Filipino's sense of patrio-

Feedback

It seems many people share our sentsments about the setup in our airports.

Reader Virgie Velasco said, "I felt good having found someone who is also wondering why the efficient taxi system implemented in the domestic airport is not being implemented at the Centennial Air-

"Many times I have to wait for an hour or longer to get a taxi [presumably at the departure area of international airports where metered taxes are allowed]. Even if I arrive ahead of the others, it is a free-forall, [people jostling to get ahead of the rest, with taxis stopping anywhere their passenger wants to get off]. Some taxis

also refuse to take you for various rea-

"The coupon taxis are very expensive. They are clean, comfortable and fast, but expensive. [Can't] the Centennial Airport management do something about this? Where do we complain...?"

Ed T. Brondial said, "One word sums it up for me [at the domestic airport], it's convenience. You have a choice when it comes to the taxi and it's nearer. And it's relatively efficient. That's why given the choice, I'd take Cebu Pacific or Air Phil just because of the terminal." Both Velasco and Brondial will be hap-

py to know that something is being done about the transport system in the other Alfonso G. Cusi, Manila International Airport Authority general manager, wrote

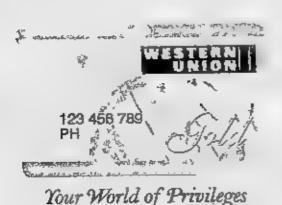
metered taxis in the other terminals." He said, "We are targeting by the last quarter of this year to provide the airport with metered taxis to give passengers

to say "we are well on [the way to having]

(an) alternative transport service " The efficient system at the domestic airport, he said, would also be implemented at the two international terminals in line with our commitment to provide security, safety, comfort and convenience"

to travelers.

Send letters to The Consumer, Lifestyle Section, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Ave. cor Mascardo and Yague Sts., Makati City; or e-mail ibolido@inquirer



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ALTERNATION OF COMME

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THE REGGIE ASPIRAS SCHOOL OF Baka with Pandan Rice, Bulalo Culinary Arts offers the following

Sept. 7—Korean 101 Kalbi-Chim etables (Korean beef rib stew), Korean Barbecue (pork, beef, chicken, seafood), Kimchi Rice, Chap Chae (Korean-style stir-fried noodles), mixed vegetables

Sept. 8-Breakfast Buffet '07 (special class, all new): Carrot Muffins with Cream Cheese Butter, Home-smoked Salmon with Cucumber Cream and Seafood Omelette and Popovers, Maple Chicken with Pluffy Pancakes, Pancake Dogs with Flavored Mustards and Syrups, Breakfast Steaks with Garlie Toast and Eggs Carbonara, Fruit Pudding

Sept. 10-Paella Filipina: Taba ng Talangka Paella with Mixed Seafood and Asian Vegetables, Paksiw na Pata Paella with Stewed Banana Blossom and Lakatan Relish, Bistek Tagalog Paella with Caramelized Shallots in Lemon Soy Dressing, Capsicum Afritada and Saffron Paella, Arroz a la Cubana Paella with Taro-dipped Fried Ba-

Sept. 12-Traditional Binalot Class. Fried Pork and Adobo Flakes with Chicharon Chips and Salted Egg Relish, Guinamang Sugpo and Gabi with Bagoong Rice, Tilapia with Shrimp Paste roasted Tomatoes and Caramelized Onions and Talaba Rice, Nilagang Tadyang na

> MOONCAKE FEST Xin Tian Di Restaurant on the

fourth level of Crowne Plaza Galieria Manila celebrates

Chinese Mid-Autumn this month with an assortment of mooncakes and pastries. Executive chef Sam Lee also

offers the modern version, Snow Mooncakes, in mange, banana, orange, pandon and vanilla flavors. Also in the

lineup is Ube Ice Cream snow

on exhibit at Crowne Plaza lobby, 4/L, foyer near Xin Tian

Dr. and 4/F, Atrium entrance

from Robinsons Galferia Mall.

WELCOME the "Ber" month

with the Jungle Bungle, ice-

blended black tea laced with

and sweetened milk capped

with vanilla ice cream and

and chocolate sticks. It is

Asia, Robinsons Manila. Robinsons Galleria and The

Block at SM North.

available in Chaikofi Mail of

coconut syrup of azucar rossada

whipped cream, coconut flakes,

Call 6337222 or 6337111.

mooncake. All mooncakes are

Steak with Fried Bulalo Rice and Mushroom Gravy with Spring Veg-

New class schedules are out for September-October. Call 9289296, 9273008 or 6335162.

Cooking and baking classes

Dorothy's Cooking School will offer cooking and baking classes starting

Gourmet dishes like roast duck with peaches and whole fish baked in salt will be taught as part of a festive menu on Sept. 8. Dishes for potluck such as roast pork with coffee mandarin glaze and baked rack of lamb with fruit and nut pilaf will be featured Sept.

Baking classes featuring Christmas giveaways such as chocolate espresso bars, macadamia nut tart in chocolate crust will be covered Sept. 12 while peran rum cake, brownies with dulce de leche and other saleable goodies will be featured Sept. 19

Bread-making from scratch, including potato bread with rosemary, chocolate babka, panettone and other holiday breads, will be taught Sept. 17

Dorothy's School in New Manila, Quezon City, is owned by culinary expert and cookbook author Dorothy Ferreria. Call 7217735 and 4167968

Rice toppings

Maya Ritchen combines rice with favorite home processed meats in Flavored Rice & Meat Toppings Sept. 8, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Featured are restaurant favorites like garlic rice, pineapple rice, adobo rice, and saffron rice with preservative-free meats such as tapa tips, tocino, native longganisa and crispy comed

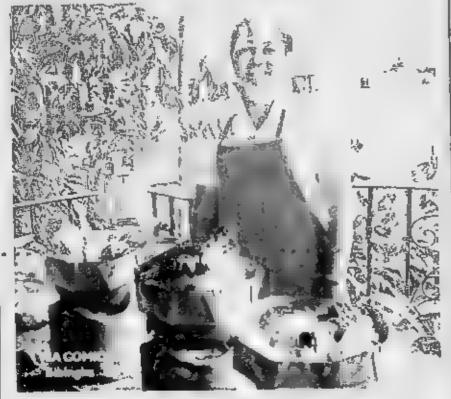
Fundamentals of Bakery Production will be offered Sept. 11-14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. It covers baking techniques, including the use of ready mixes, yeast, bread, quick breads, pies, cookies and cakes. Participants each get a free baking cook-

Chinese Cooking, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sept. 15, will cover Pata Tim, Chinese Lumpia, siomai, kikiam, Pork Spareribs with Black Beans, Chinese Stuffed Chicken, almond jelly.

Meringue Desserts, Sept. 15, 2-6 p.m., will include Sansrival, Sylvannas, Brazo de Mercedez, Lemon Meringue Pie, with Chocolate Custard as bonus

Basic Culmary, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sept. 18-21, is for anyone who wants to develop basic coolding skills. Enrollees get a free cookbook.

Maya Kitchen (open Tuesday-Saturday) is at 8/F, Liberty Building, A. Arnaiz Ave. (formerly Pasay Road), Makatı; 8921185, 8925011 local 108; e-mail mkitchen@ultimate.info.com.ph.



The queen

Ice Cream

11/4 c heavy cream ⅓ c milk

6 large egg yolks

V₂ c sugar

1 c mangosteen pulp, pureed Combine cream and 1 c of the milk in a large heavy saucepan. Bring to a gentle boil over medium heat

 In a slow and steady stream, whisk I c of the hot cream mixture into the egg mixture.

Gradually whisk the egg mixture back into the saucepan.

Stir mixture constantly over medium-low heat until the mixture thickens enough to coat the back of a spoon or 170°F on a thermometer.

Strain custard into a heat-proof medium bowl. Add mangosteen. Cover bowl with chingwrap and

Churn following ice cream maker's instructions.

La Comida Bibingka

My family loves lechon but we

are tired of those that can be ordered. Do you have any new finds of a different sort?

MICHAEL ANGELO REYES

A few months back, I discovered Lynster's Lechon (0917-8975966). What they make is the Indonesian type. Recently however, they came up with a new variant, garlic!

I served it for lunch when Australian celebrity chef Luke Mangan, who is currently doing a gustatory tour of Asia for his television spe-

cial, came to my house. According to Luke, it was the best pork he had had in the category. Nice, tender and succulent!

Another thing that I served that could be of interest to you was bibingka and puto bumbong! So sarap. They can go to your house and do it all for youl (Call La Comida at 4260471 and 9276984)

E-mail the author at raspiras@inquirer.com.ph

CENTER FOR ASIAN CULINARY STUDIES CAFÉ YSABEL RESTAURANT

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TOP CULINARY SCHOOL - PHILIPPINE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2006

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE RECREATIONAL AND ONE-DAY BUSINESS CLASS

CONKINGICUASSES

September 94. Twesday - HOMESIADE HOLLDAY (AFTS L. Chef Gino will teach bottled goodles that are perfect for Christmas give-aways. Recipes anchade Pattamenta, Salsa, Nacho Cheese Dip, Cilantro Pesto, Classic Pesto, Salad Dressing, Toblerone Fonduc and many more. Gift wrapping ideas included for P1,300.00 meluding ingredients from 11:00 - 3:00 p.m.

September 65, Rivinguistr - CLO MANUA, PARTA, A sequel to Chef Lawrence's successful Italian Pasta class, now he will tench us more kinds of Italian pasts: the recipes are Mushroom & Anchovy Campos.

Minestrone. Grillod Checken & Fusili Salad, Vegetable Fruits, Checken Parminana, Gnoochs in Tomato
Sauce and Spaghotti alla Carbonara. For P1,300 from 11:00-3:00 p.m. NEW CLASS

September 66. Thursday - MEAT ME IN THE KITCHEN. Calling all beef knyers. Time to explore the infinite possibilities of this protein rich suggedient. In this class Chef Gino will teach you Beef Strogandf.

Axian Beef Shortribs Stew, Orange Scented US Beef Belly, Arroz alia Cubana with Queza de Bola Rice.

Argentinian Style Steak and Mentionf with Gravy For P1.800.00 metuding all suggedients from 13:00 - 2:00

September 11. Tuesday - CATERING AND ENTERTAINING SPECIALS. Let Chef Gno teach you recipes that can be used for Catering events and parties. Recipes include Waldorf Salad, Mixed Minduroom Purmesan Pasta, Clucken, Croquettes with Honey Mustard Cortia Sauce, Lapu-lapu with Caper Buerre Blanc Pork Rosst Stuffed with Port Wine Gravy and Mango Crope Surprise for P2.000.00 from 13:00 - 4:00 p.m

September 13. Thursday - SEANISH TARAN FOR A COCKTAIL PARTY. Learn Spanish Tapas for a Cocktail Party, the recipes will be demonstrated by Chef Betma Leparda of Gournou's Palate. The recipes are Fruited Whose Sangma. Bacabao Al Ajo (Garlie Bacabao Tapas). Turnates Rellenos de Sonato (Tuna Tornautes). Prochitos Morunos (Mest Kehabs - Pork), Megilliones Con Chorizo (Mussels and Chorizo), Tartar de Aum (Yuna Tartur), Londi Membalis (Almondigas de Cordero) for Pf,800.00 including all ingredients from 10:00 -

September 14. Friday - ALL ABOUT CHICKEN PART 2. New set of chacken recipes from Chef Jenny Tan for the whole family and friend to enjoy, the recipes are Chacken Taco, Chicken Noodle Salad, Chicken Vegetable Soup, Chicken with Herbed Butter Wrap, Green Chicken Curry and Brown Rice with Chicken from 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. including all ingredients for P1,500.00 REW CLASS.

Sentember 15, Sanutaker - A TASTE OF FIETDAM I. Learn debicious Vietnamese Cusane from Nga Nguyen de Lennos, on nor of Vietnamese Food House. Recipes include Pho Bo (Beef Noodle Soup), Got Cuon (Frest Springrolls with Shrimp and Pork), Pho Ap Clans (Fried Rice Stock noodles with Squid and Shrimps). Cha Ce Thong Long (Gralled Fish with Dill). Gor Rau Muong Thit Be (Swamp Cabbage with Saufed Beef Salad) and The Bap (Sweet Corn with Cocornal Milk) for P1,500 00 including all ingredients from 11.00 - 3:90 p.m.

September 16. Sunday - SOUTHERN COOKING. Southern style cooking and recipes from our Halid and Pastry Chef. Chef Jerny Tan, the recapes include Corn Soup, Cheese Erichilado, Chicken Fried Steak with Cream Gravy, Baby Back Ribs, Mexican Rice and Drunken Bandings for P1,500,00 including all argreditects from 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. NEW CLASS.

September 17. Monday - HOMEM LIDE HOLDAY GIFTS 2. Once again Chef Gino will teach another set of buttled goodes that are perfect for Christians giverways. Recipes include Violet Crumble, Boursin, Buster Caramorel Sauce, Homerousin Whole Grass Mustard, Nougas, Dried Tornatoes in Oil and Cheese Log for Pt.500.00 metading all impredients from 11-00 - 3:00 pm

September 18. Tuesday - CATERING AND ENTERTAINING SPECIALS 2. Once again, Chef Gino will teach you more recipes that are good for Caterate events and purises. Rocipes sactude Grape, Olive and Auchovy Salad, Berf Langua, Scalass Meumere Bransed in Sance Nantua, Gino's Baby Back Ribs, Potatoes Dampissoure and Dolec Tostada for P2,000 00 including all ingredients from 11:00 - 4:00 p.m.

September 21. Friday - EAST COCKTAIL AND PARTY DISTIES. PART 1. Simple and easy to do cocktail and party dishes will be demonstrated by Chef Jenny Tiat. The recipes are Beef Croquette, Garlie Mushroom disked Mussels, Pro-Grilled Pork Steak with Balsamie Shallor Sauce. Chicken Fajites and Sirlom with Brown Gravy for PL 500 including all ingrodients from 11:00 - 3:00 p.m. NEW CLASS. September 22. Saturday GIFTS FROM THE KITCHEN. Chef Gane prepares as away of Holiday gifts

vour friends will appreciate and that are easy to prepare even in the abortest possible time. Classic favorates such as Vela de Lorno, Gournes Tuyo, Grilled White Cheese, Acetumis Alabadus, Dulong in Olive oil and Alafadetts. P1,500.00 from 11:00-3:00 p.m. Recepts include all argredients

Sentember 23. Sundary - DELICIOUS & HEALTH'S CRACKERS & DIPS. Delicious and healthy snacks will be demonstrated by our Pastry Chef Hammit Errora for us to enjoy and learn. The recipes are Whole Wheat Crackers. White Saltime Crackers. Black and Whate Healthy Crackers, Smoked Salmon Pate. Maghinoum Pate. Basil pesto and Toronto-Basil Taponade for P1.500.00 from 11:00-3:00 p.m.

BAKING CLASSES

September #1. Suturday - CHOCOLATE TEMPLATIONS. This class is a must for myone with a passion to create a dazzimy chocolute desserts. Chef Adoree Chong-Uy will demonstrate a variety of specialties like Double Chocolate Rum Cake, Floquy Chocolate Cake, Chocolate Blitz Torre, Flouriess Chocolate Cake. Chocolate Peanut Butter Done and Graham Chocolate Roulade for P1,800,00 metuding all ingredients from 10:00 +4:00 p.m.

Sentember 188, Sentember - CHEESECAKES: BITH A DIFFERENCE. Chef & Food Columnist Adores Chong. Up will present new ways to prepare cheesecakes. Recipes include the Mousse Cheesecake, Langka Cheesecake, Alango Cheesecake, Dalandan Curd Cheesecake. Pandan Cheesecake and Green Tea Cheesecake for P1,500-00 including all repredients from 10:00 + 4:00 p.m.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU COULD CALL AT LEAST TWO DAYS BEFORE THE CLASS FOR RESERVATION.

DIPLOMA IN PROFESSIONAL CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM

The Professional Culturey Arts Program prepares students for professional entry into the food service todastry. This satensive program integrates classical and modern enhancy techniques from the finest institutions abruad with kitchen management skills. Students learn how to prepare soups, souces, vegetables. entrees, breads, pastries and dessorts. They will learn how to identify, fabricate and portion ment, positry, fish and shellfish. The course will also provide the introductory skills on Asian and Halal cooking, wine appreciation, gastranomy, table service and back of the house operations

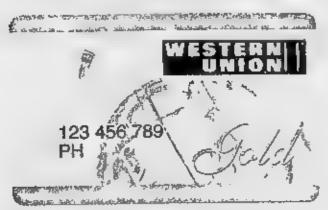
HIGHEST TESDAACCREDITED PROGRAM. This program is a hands-on training series for students to gam profesency in various shalls needed to perform at professional standards in a commercial kitchen. The students will also prepare buffets and be asvolved as across functions

Learn the CACS method and be the Global Chef! Our program is the only school with its own restaurant outlet and its own internship program of 500 hours and Externship or an outside practicum program of 400 hours. It is also the only program with the mostly widely used software hospitality system worldwide that gives its graduates the global edge. Enrollment arcludes 3 sets of uniforms, chel's kit, manual and all the meredigmis to be used. NO HIDDEN COSTS!

Channa will start on October, Schodule for TTMS 16:00 - 4:00 and 5:00 - 11:00 pm. Enrollment is unguing tomorrousium, and 726-9226 or 725-9309 and look for Marily's Espino, Paul Tee or Glady I.

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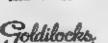


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 Free 1 GB USB Drive with purchase of any computer package (brands included: HP, Acer, Acetech, Lenovo; no minimum purchase required)"

Just present your card together with the discount coupon at the indicated establishment. Cell 888-1200 (Metro Manile), 02-888-1200 outside Moiro Marsis (NOD rejec apply) or 1-900-1-888-1200 (PLDT tell-free), or 1-800-9-888-1200 (Globalines toll-free) for more information.

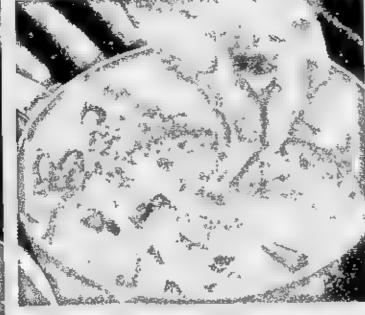
"Discount coupons available at select Western Union Agent locations. Yenes and Conditions apply. See liyers for details. Process clamation is from July 1, 2007 - September 30, 2007. Per DTI-NCH Permit No. 2860, Series of 2007



IFESTYLE



ADD the coconut mak, stirring constantly.



BRING to a boil, then lower heat. Continue cooking until almost all liquid has evaporated. Adjust seasoning by adding fish sauce. Add bell pepper cubes and lemon grass. Stir once in a while to prevent burning.

The Pinoy



ADD Bringhe, pressing at firmly into the mold.



REMOVE tin and again top with bell pepper.



Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan F PAELLA IS FOR SPAIN, Bringhe is for the Philippines. Indeed, Bringhe has become the local

counterpart of the famed Spanish paella. Like the paella, it is cooked with rice, although the sticky variety or malagkit is used. It has chicken, pork and vegetables

cooked in coconur milk. Instead of the pricey saffron the Spaniards use for paella, turmeric (or dilow) is added to Bringhe to give it a greenish-yellow color and distinc-

This mouth-watering Pampango dish is a popular offering in most Pinoy festive occasions. It is prepared with different ingredients to give it a unique taste.

Some put chicken liver and gizzard, while others add Vienna sausage, potatoes, raisins, carrots or peas. (What gets into the dish seems to depend on the mood and taste of the cook.)

Bringhe is traditionally cooked in banana eaves so the rice does not stick to the part. The leaves also give it a special aroma.

Bringhe is usually served on the table with the banana leaves.

Here is a special version of Bringhe from Jam Mendoza, chef instructor of the American Hospitality Academy Philippines (tels. 8927372 and 8927702), the first American culmary school in the country.

Mendoza's Bringhe was taken from the recently launched book "Foodlore and Flavors: Inside the Southeast Asian Kitchen."

The latest project of the publishing and design group ArtPost Asia, the book features essays and contributions from 14 international culinary experts and food writers from the region. Inquirer food columnist Micky Fenix wrote the portion on the Philippines, including the traditional Bringhe.

Bringhe is such a rich concoction of glutinous rice and turmeric-flavored chicken steamed in banana leaves," says Mendoza. "But, in this recipe, we try to present it in a unique, classy way. We call it nouvelle Pinoy cursine. We use the traditional ingredients but we get rid of the banana leaves."

Mendoza serves and arranges Bringhe on individual platters with all the garnishing you can imagine to make it visually more

appetizing and tempting.

The result is a mound of lovely gold-hued rice with tender chicken and topped with colorful vegetables.

Ingredients

1 c malagkit rice 500 ml coconut milk, freshly squeezed

30 ml cooking oil 5 g garlic, minced

50 g onions, chopped 1/2 pc chicken parts

30 ml patts (fish sauce)

20 g luyang dilaw (turmeric juice) 1 pc banana leaves

160 g bell pepper, red green punch of ground black pepper lemon grass, crushed

Garnish:

2 pc hard-boiled eggs, sliced chopped tomatoes

For suggestions, e-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph



GARNISH with hard-boiled egg, chopped tomatoes and spring onlons.

To State Table



NICELY plated Bringhe



HEAT oll in saucepan. Sauté garlic and onions

over high heat. Add chicken pieces and cook

until chicken is slightly browned. Add patis,

CLEAN mologist, washing and draining the grains thrice. Set aside.

$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{A}$ ne Academy ra International **Culinary Arts**

DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL CULINARY ARTS MANAGEMENT A 9th month intensive Culmary Program customized for tomorrow's Dynamic Chefs. The Program encompasses all the fundamental skills required to excel in the fast paced and ever growing industry. Student-instrutor ratio is strictly limited to i 14 for a comprehensive hands-on and person-to-person approach.

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Course Begins in October 9 (alternoon & evening class)

The course focuses on techniques just as much as on specific recipe production in order for the students to understand the science behind cooking. Join the academy and start thinking like a chef.

Weekend Class Sept. 1 Weekday (Pass Sept. 18 & Oct. 9 Asian Morning Furopean Afternoon & Basic - Everage)

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Taste of Iloilo in Manila

FRESKA BRINGS TO MANILA the ambiance of lazy Sunday lunches in the beaches of Iloilo.

Following the success of its stall in Tiendesitas, it set up its first stand-alone restaurant along Katipunan Avenue, and its third outlet at the 2/L of Promenade, Greenhills.

Freska's simple grilled selections use the freshest ingredients and choice spices.

Bestsellers include Grilled Scallops with Lemon Butter Sauce, Baked Oysters with Two Cheese, Stzzling Giant Stuffed Squid, Adobadong Hito, and its signature dish, Grilled Managat (Visayan

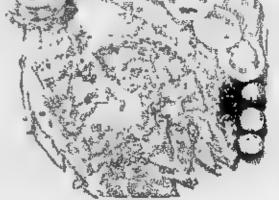
Mangrove Snapper) The restaurant also offers nonseafood choices like Chicken Inasal, Mango Salad with Red Eggs and Tomatoes, Lato (seaweed from Palawan), Kadios-Baboy at Langka.

The restaurant is run by Ilongga chef Pauline Gorricetz Banusing, a graduate of the Culmary Institute of America and the Institute of Culinary Education in Manhattan, New York.

Freska showcases the best of Iloilo's culmary traditions.



OYSTERS with Lemon **Butter and Garlic**



GRILLED Managat (Snapper)

Website: www.inquirer.net/filestyle Text us your feedback: Inquirer life name/age/city/massage to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



Bless this homecooking

EMEMBER WHEN we all looked forward to fiestas in Pampanga? All dishes, no matter how simple, always had that special flavor.

You don't have to travel all the way to Pampanga or wait for the annual fiesta to taste those mouthwa-

tering home-cooked dishes again. Mangan just opened at the new

TriNoma Mall on North Avenue in QC. The restaurant offers irresistibly delicious lutong bahay Kepampangan food similar to the spread at flestas

Lengua, one of Mangan's hot favorites, is cooked in three different ways-Lengua with Mush-

room (P210), Lengua Sisig (P160) and Lengua Caldereta (P165).

Bestsellers include Tortang Talong with Pork Giniling (P80), Garlie Pugo Inadobo (P125), Crispy Pata (P380) and Sisig ni Mely (a Kapsampangan specialty named after the grand old lady



Celebrating 156 Years of Banking Excellence

The BPI Network: Creating Customer Touch Points to Suit Your Lifestyle

Over the years, Bank of the Philippine Islands has been designing and redesigning its network to meet the changing times and the evolving lifestyles of its customers.

From brick-and-mortar to virtual, from person-to-person to electronic, from ATM to mobile banking, BPI offers its clients a vast array of customer touch points to make their banking as convenient as possible Today, as BPI turns 156, it boasts of over 800 branches, more than 1,400 ATMs, 11,000 point-of-sale terminals and a 24/7 Call Center And with its Express Phone, Express Online and Express Mobile, every tandline, PC and cellphone is now part of the BPI network.

While its innovations in electronic banking may have been more noticeable, BPI has also made significant changes in its branch network - in location, in special services for unique target markets and in the facilities you'll find within the branch.

BPI pioneered the branch in the mail, which caters to individuals who are fied to the office on weekdays and who spend their weekends or after-office hours shopping. These mati-based outlets called BPI Express Banking Centers (FBC) allow shappers to open an Express Teller account and get the ATM card in 20 minutes. The EBC also handles applications for BPI credit cards, auto and housing loans, and Express Cash

Even BPt's regular branches, although seemingly uniform in its offerings, provide more than general banking services. Some of them are specially designed to handle corporate requirements while others will cater to individuals with sophisticated financial and investment needs. Still, others will provide expertise in handling the needs of overseas Filipinas and their families.

But there's more. Lost year, BPI started rolling out branches called 8PI Express, catering to individuals who want fast, friendly services for their simple routine transactions and basic banking needs. The branch offers you complete electronic banking channels - ATM, phone and online banking - and an Express Services Counselor to leach and assist you in completing your transactions using these channels. Tellers are also on hand, as well as Express Sales Counselors to answer your queries and offer financial advice.

& BPI Express

For its innovative concept, the BPI Express branch won the Branch Transformation Project of the Year at the 2007 Banker Technology Awards. The award, given by the premier financial publication, The Banker, annually cites the best banking practices and innovations worldwide. BPI Express earned this citation besting other international

Truly, banking has gone a long way with BPI's innovations in bank customer touch points. You can expect nothing less from a bank that takes to heart its commitment to bring its customers farther

> BPI@156 We'll take you farther.

> > www.bpiexpressonline.com

Another innovation from the Bank of the Philippine Islands

BPI EXPRESS: The Friendly Place to Bank

Time Somehow there's never enough As everyone knows, time is money, and minutes matter. So the last thing you want is to spend time on routine tasks like banking. Just thinking about the lines - from the payday ATM rush to the long wait for the teller - can be stressful

Even more stressful is not knowing how to do your transactions using the phone or the computer at the bank - it makes you wish someone took the time to help you figure things out. And when you want to consult about getting a loan or financial advice, you feel like everyone's listening in on what you're saying - the bank just doesn't seem private enough to talk about such matters.

But fret no more, Bank of the Philippine Islands has come up with a friendly solution-its newest branch type called BPI Express, now in more locations nationwide



When you enter a SPI Express branch, you are immediately greated by its friendly, clean and modern interior design.

It's a bank that's adapted for today's hurried lifestyle.

BPI Express branches offer teller-assisted transactions, self-service banking and

financial advice. It won the Branch Transformation Project of the Year at the 2007 Banker Technology

Awards

From the moment you enter the stylish, not-so-bank-looking bank, you notice the difference. The sunny decor, relaxed yet fast-moving mood and even the helpful, friendly BPI Express Counselors make it feel more like a boutique than a bank.



The BPI Express consultation area is designed to help keep financial discussions with clients strictly private and

Basic transactions are quick and easy with the BPI Express Electronic Banking zone.

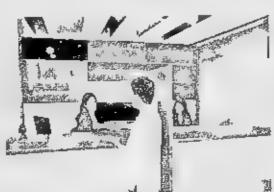
There you'll find BPI Express Teller ATMs, a phone for BPI Express Phone

and a computer to access BPI Express Online, Plus, a BPI Express Services Counselor is there to help you every step of the way. Once you learn how to do it, you can do your banking from the comfort of your home or your office.

BPI Express has friendly tellers on hand for your other transactions.

BPI Express caters to simple routine transactions, so lines at the tellers are short. Think of the whole branch as a supermarket Express Lane - a fast lane designed to move you through quickly and more pleasantly.

But the "Express" isn't just about speed; it's also about expression. Just tell us



Our tailars are ready to sesist you with your simple, routine transactions. That's why lines are shorter and transactions

what you need, and we'll help you find it - not standing at a counter, but in the privacy and comfort of a personal workstation, Here, BPI Express Sales Counselors can give you simple, practical advice on loans, investments, financial planning and other money matters.

89-100

BPI Express offers private financial consultations.

So, if you want to have more control over your time and get friendly, fast service, come and visit the nearest BPI Express branch. You might just be surprised at how quick - and pleasant your banking experience could be.



BPI Express branches: METRO MANILA: Almanza Uno - Las Piñas - Auto Mail - Frontera Orive, Ortigas - A. Bonifacio - Mauban - D. Macapagal Ave. - Assana - España - Blumentritt - G. Araneta Avenue - Intrepid Plaza - Libis, QC - J.P Rizai - San Miguel - Kamias - Laong Laan - Medical Plaza - Maketi - Muñoz Market - President Ave. - Parañaque - Quezon Ave. - D. Tuazon - Shaw Blvd. - Acada Lane. - Santol - Sta Mesa Sucat - Virra Mall • Talon - Las Plñas • Taytay - Si Monteverde • Bellwag - Rizal St. • VISMIN: Davao - Bajada • Davao - MacArthur • Gaisano - Tabunok • SM Gabu • SOON TO OPEN: Alabang - Civic Place • Dat. • McArthur Highway • Fort Bonifacio - Stop over • Fort Bonifacio - High St. • Meloka - Paseo del Congreso • Riverbanks • Trinoma





A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



DAILY CROSSWORD

By Aim P. Otschwang

Huntington Beach, CA

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- Day spectacle 7 Ald a crook
- 43 Salutation
- 44 Swedish money

ASSES

- 45 Himalayan

- language
- 46 Bld one club
- 47 Confront boldly
- 48 No water or loa \$2 Dot on a map

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

Q M A P

LITE HOBBYHORSE'S

ALEDHERRING POE

BAR ULLAYP GFCNS

HOUNDROS NS TAL

SI N DAE A'EROS

SITE ALL NEST ...

WADIES OVER

ALES NERO

ske of 1944 57 Table lyrant 58 Lennon's beloved

54 Ran up a tab

55 Allied victory

- 59 Pinky or Peggy 60 Elsenhower
- 61 Recipe meas,

BY JESS ABRERA GARFIELD

HOROSCOP

YOU BORN TODAY: You need variety and

stimulation. You fasts to be bored. With

your attention to detail, you can Suive in

research, the sciences or psychology. You

need a lot of freedom in your life. You

adapt quickly but function best when you

have a goal. People find you friendly and

pulgoing. The year ahead lavers all lunds

Birthdate et Michaelle Jean, Canada's

Governor General; Justina Machado, ac-

ARIES (March 21 to April

19): Unexpected company

might drop by at home to-

day On the other hand, ex-

peried company might be a

20): You'll meet new faces

or run into old friends loday

We an interesting day be-

planned You can count on

SEMINH (May 21 to June

20). Spontaneous purchas-

es and impulse buying are

very tikely loday. However,

you might also dream up

unexpected, new and novel

CARCER (June 21 to July

22): The Moon is in your

sign today and you feet

Insky! You want something

different to happen. You're

ready for adventure and are

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22):

Midden Surprises might

catch you off-guard today.

These will occur especially

if you're dealing with the

government or large insti-

fations. On the other hand,

VIRGO (Aug. 23 le Sopi.

22). A friend will surprise

you loday Alternatively,

you might meet someone

who is guite bizarre and

different from you. (At least

if won t be a boring day!)

Something

tress, Greg Rusedski, tennis player.

no-show.

your daily coutine being interrupted!

weys of making money!

bored with routine

it could be a pleasant discovery

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY AND ASSESSED.

of social activities. Enjoy!

home will be different!

9/6/07

MOTEL

LOOK AT THOSE COTE SOURRELS IN THE PRIVEWAY

I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE DOING? 700

BY IM DAVIS LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HOCK NG YOUR HUBCAPS FOR **PISTACHIOS** THE TAXABLE TO STAND

KIKO MACHINE



Marpeore na Hyper Bibo medddy 600dy Naalala ro Minsan REO'S MARINDS ALI NUMBER

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SA ANUMANG SANDALI

HANCEANE MAY LUMANT, AT NEASON MARALITAAN AKOY DINA MAPAKALI KONG PATAY YANA PALA TALAGANG IKAYANIMASAN (DANI DAN SA ISANG CARTT (DON'T DOW SAISANG CHRIST MAS TRAGEDY), MAPANSIN E MAGKAROON NA NG MALAKING BUNGI

BY "YRA GARCELLANO

WHY DOES THIS ALWAYS

I ALWAYS CHOOSE THE

WRONG Pet?

96

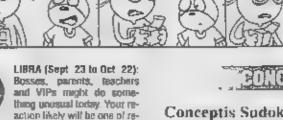
HAPPEN to ME" WHY Do

BY MANIX ABRERA

ATOMO AND WEBOY

AtoMo, WE NEED TO NO NEED to TALK HALK YOUR PET RALPHY'S GONE. Termite has to Go RALPHY LEFT ME

THE MORSH HANG 3 HE DIDN'T LEAVE A Note กัพ





belinus independence. "Tatk to the hand?" (You're feeling your cats) SCORPIG (Oct. 23 to Nov 21): Try to vary your routine oday. Do something different Go someptace you've never been before. You're

hangey for advecture and new experiences. You religion to new ideas. and Iresh learning expenences



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 to Dec. 21): unexpected gifts goodies might come your way today Something surprising that concerns the wealth of others will likely take place. You might also hear surprising news about your partner's income.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to

Jan 19): You feel very independent loday You don't want other people telking you what to do Fortunately, you don't leet particularly bossy either. Your attitude today as Tive and let

Playful activities with children will delight.



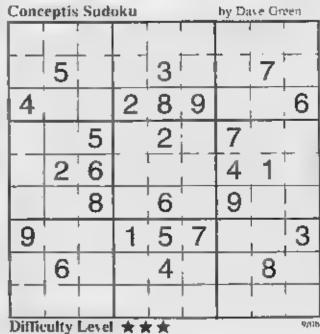
five."

ACRIARRIS (Jan. 28 to Feb. 18): Interruptions at work are likely roday. Fire alarms, compizier crashes, power outages or unexpected visitors are just some of the thangs that



cright change your daily routine. PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 201: You feel playful and prankish today. You're also quite furtations. The bottom tine to strapty this. You're tooking for fun and pleasured

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU



Answer to previous puzzle

9	6	2	4 5	3	8	5	1	7	
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HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

LIFESTYLE

COUNTRY COOKING Micky Fenix

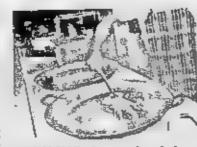
Tasting Cebu once again

NLESS I GO TO A town or province to do research, the cuisine of the place unfolds very slowly. Sometimes it takes years.

Cebu cooking was introduced to me during my early working years by my boss in a broadcast company, Marilyn Bajarias. It was not in the is and province but in her apartment in Quezon homerown of Mandaue. I

She taught me how to eat maya maya (katambak, red snapper) head cooked as tinowa, which is how Cebuanos call their lightly soured sinigang

She made me a kinilaw fanatic and every tanguigue ceviche thereafter had to measure up to her version. Her guinamos was sent by her mother from her



A SERVING of rompe kandado tinowa at Binugoy.

thought this fermented fish was more spectacular than the bagoong alamang and bagoong isda I was familiar with.

She also gave me my first taste of dried danggit and she laughed when I called the side without the bones "page one," my favorite side.

I went to Mandaue for her wedding. The day was like a fi-

esta because the whole town seemed to be there preparing and cooking. She managed to have some experts teach me how to weave the leaves to form puso, rice wrapped in coconut leaves. I failed miserably

I remembered her when I went to Mandaue last week to have a tinowa experience. As soon as I saw the restaurant name, Binugoy, I laughed.

'Kinawboy' eating

Having learned Cebuano during a teaching stint in Cagayan de Oro and Binisaya from my husband's Leyte family, I knew bugoy meant a ne'er do well fellow. Even better, the sign said "Kaon nga kinawboy." To be a "cowboy" in this country means you take things as they are, you are comfortable in any

As long as the place is clean, I can be "kinawboy." And I like eating places like Binugoy, unpretentious, serving home-style meals on plastic ware set on plastic tables and chairs.

Several tinowa woks lined the turo-turo area. You could choose from clear to reddishorange broth colored and soured by lots of tomatoes.

The fish was barracuda or what they called rompe kandado. There was also a big eel. I forgot to ask them how it was called there but I remember that it is called palos up here in the north. There was stingray

it was breakfast, by the way, during that visit and no one found it strange that we ate kınılaw. So we took two versions, one a tanguigue and the con. There was also lukot, a

other sea cucumber, or sunluspaghettini look-alike, greenish and wonderful. It made up for the fishy lukot we had during our last visit to the Talisay lechon place.

Lechon would not figure too much during this visit. We have had our fill so many times during former visits. Those included two Sundays at Talisay where lection is sold by the kilo or on the peso amount the customer wants to pay

At Stakili Resort, we were given lechon with chicken roasted in its belly. It was also there where we tasted pig's stomach called turgol, cleaned very well then stuffed with garlic, omons, tomatoes, leeks and scallions then fried.

Sutokil

If a general grouping of Cebu cooking were to be done, sutokal would be it. That is short for sugba, tola and kilaw-grilled, soured soup and vinegar-cured.

The sugba part are the many barbecue places in the city and outlying areas. My first experience was at the downtown Larsian, rows of stalls that barbecued anything-seafood, chicken and its spare parts, pork.



A HEARTY breakfast at Binugoy of barracuda and eel tinowe, kinilow of sea cucumber, mackerel and lukot (seaweed).

was at Parr'T Ebelle where we partook of the most delicious belly of the barracuda. It was the creamiest sugba I've ever had We once more had tinowa, this time the head of mamsa (ta-(akitok, jack).

One new thing learned on this visit was the dipping sauce Cebuanos favored with their tunowa and sinugba. It had sliced green tomatoes and Bombay onions and, mixed according to taste, vinegar, soy sauce and colomons: juice.

We were treated to a bit of heritage when Maricris Encarnacion, Cebu resident and friend, brought us to Argao, about two hours from the city. I remembered how my Gebuana boss also brought me there for some beach time and my first chicharon. taste of sea urchin sold in bottles by fishermen.

I'm glad Argao has a heritage activist, Alex Gonzales, who works to preserve not only the torta, a kind of cake, but also the baroque church of St. Michael food04@yahoo.com

The sugbo part on this visit and its convent, the Casa Real and Puerta Real. I'm sure he is as frustrated as I am that the parish priest painted gold the saints at the main altar!

> We are at Alex Kaffe, owned by Alex, where we tasted tonguigue kinilaw, boiled white shrimps and the house version of humba or braised pork. We ordered mungos to find out what it was. It turned out to be monggo guisado

On the way back, it was difficult to escape the call of pork so we stopped by Carcar. At the stall of Otik we bought chicharon or pork crackling by the gram-

We remembered that on a previous visit we passed by the town of Liloan where we also bought their version

Because every Cebu visit has given me a broader view of the cooking, I am excited about the next visit, whenever that will be.

E-mail the author at pinoy-

European nouvelle cuisine in Asian setting

TUCKED AWAY IN A TREE lined section of San Juan, 18

FISH sinugbo including the barracuda belly at Parr T Ebelle

With its intricately carved antique door and cathedral ceilings garlanded by elaborate latticework handcrafted by Filipino artisans, the three level colonial house of solid stone seems to be a place for traditional cooking

The restaurant, an exponent of nouverle cuisine. serves European food in an Asian setting.

A bar of antique hardwood has a counter inlayed with ebony and ivory patterns. At the center are birds and butterflies with wings of ebony and bone with eyes of amethyst, pendot and ruby

Dining tables are fashtoned from aged narra, mahogany and other hardwood The centerpiece of a magnificent 12 seater was an ornate door from India.

A diner finds copper chaffing dishes; blown glass chandeliers; Balinese carvings; and jars, images and artifacts from China, Tibet and Nepal, as well as paintings of Filipino masters.

The seamless fusion of food and art is the work of siblings art dealer and pubhisher Marlene and master olives and feta cheese with chef Tony Aguilar.

"We wanted to show the Philippines something new, says Mariene.

Tony, who bears a striking resemblance to eldest brother Freddie Aguilar, the singer,



VEGGIE Salad

PHOTOS BY MAINDY NAMESERO

master chef in Sweden. The name Bulan, the sib-

lings explain, is Ilocano for A great deal of thought

went into the selection and pricing of items on the menii. Cleopatra (duck imported from France, oven-baked in Sauvignon sauce with a dash of saffron aioli); Roma (grilled orange-flavored filet mignon in marsala sauce, served with zucchini and tomatoes in olive oil); and Achilles (grilled lamb marinated in herbs and oranges, served with ratatouille, an undertone of marsala wine sauce)

and appetizers is available for starters and homemade

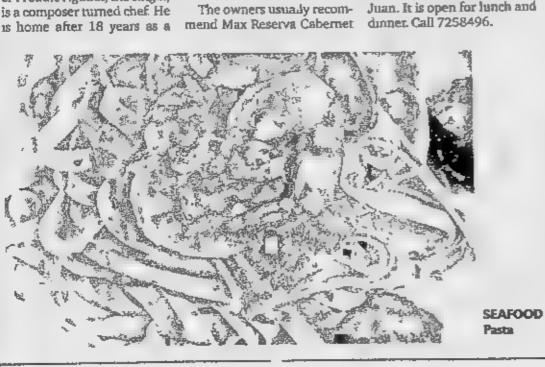
Sauvignon of the Chilean label Vina Erazuriz to accompany the main dish. But wide selection of wines and spirits, as well as premium beers, is also available.

After the meal, guests are Popular dishes include the encouraged to view the displayed artwork. A curator is at hand to answer questions.

Bulan has also hosted private affairs like family dinners, business lunches, art exhibits, book launches and even romantic meetings. An exclusive mezzanine area is available for guests who require privacy.

On Fridays, some of the most-respected country's artists and promising new talents hold sketching ses-An array of soups, salads sions at the third level func-

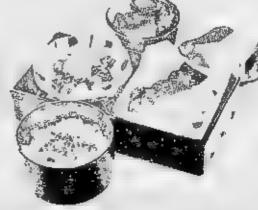
Bulan is at No. 3 General sorbets and gelato for de Jesus cot Jose Abad Santos Sts., Little Baguio, San Juan. It is open for lunch and dinner. Call 7258496.



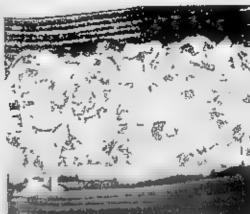


PANCAKES WHEN YOU WANT THEM

Enjoy pancakes any time of the day at Heaven 'N Eggs, Eastwood City. The bright and colorful restaurant's allday menu also includes steaks, pastas and Asian dishes. The Peanut Butter and Jelly Pancake Stock dessert is big enough for two, it has five layers of soft pancake, bathed in two kinds of peanut butter, freshly ground peanuts and a strawberry jam center. The Banana Foster Pancake has caramelized bananas, walnuts, rum and cinnamon, while the Duice de Leche Pancake has sweet flan. Call 9121 172 or text 0917-8EWCITY



SAKAE Sushi offers bento meals that include miso soup, goban and fresh fruits with your choice of grilled salmon, chicken teriyaki and beef yokiniku. There's the Sakae Deluxe Bento (freshly grilled saba shroyak), shoice sushi and agedoshi tofu). Sakae Sushi branches are at Crescent West Park, The Fort and SM Mall of Asia. Call 8434891.



CABALEN'S Fried Bangus with Mango Salad

DINING OUT

Buffet treat for grandparents

THIS GRANDPARENTS DAY, treat Lolo and Lola to Cabaien's exceptional buffet, with over 50 dishes to choose from at a very affordable eat-all-you-can price Specialties include Sigang Bangus sa Bayabas, Ginisang Labong with Chicken, Cabalen Morcon, Adobong Camaru, Ensaladang Paku, Fried Bangus with Mango Salad and, for those with a sweet tooth, the Tibok-Tibok kakanın. Cabaleri's Pick A Price Promo allows Loios and Lolas to win exciting prizes like Pepsi Lite products, Cabalen gift certificates and Pirroy deli items. Cabalen Restaurants are at West Avenue, SM Megamall, Robinson's Place Manila, SM North Edsa, Robinson's Starmitts Pampanga, SM Clark, Festival Supermall, Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall, TriNoma and Glonetta 3. Call 3723515 or 8939884 for reservations or 9135522 for cater ing services.

SUPER BOWL OF CHINA Festival Mall Alabang offers Super Chinese Flesta Merienda, Pinov merienda

with a Chinese twist. Have the afternoon snack buffet for P129 per person. The promo features a noodle dish, soups, dim sum, congee and others with a single serving of iced tea or remonade, it is available 2:30-5:30 p.m., Monday-Saturday. The Super Chinese Fiesta Merienda promo is available until Oct. 31 exclusively at Super Bowl of China Festiva: Ma., Alabang.

THE BELLEVUE HOTEL with the Department of Tourism Region 9 headed by director Ric San Juan present a taste of Zamboanga, Sept. 7-9. The hotel's Café d'Asie features guest chef from Zamboanga who will share her specialty dishes such as Curacha Crabs and Imbae Oysters for P795+. A special treat also awaits grandparents on Sept. 9. Ca., 7718181

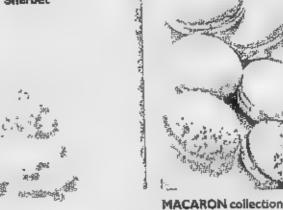
CASA ARMAS, the popular Spanish restaurant, is now offering authentic Jabugo ham. Jamón de Jabugo has a distinctive quality. It

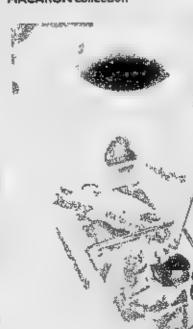
is produced in Jabugo, home of good natural produce and fine wines, in Huelva, a province of Andalusia, Spain, At Casa Armas, Jamon de Jabugo is served with bread on a tabla (wooden board) Priced at P975+, it is the newest addition to the restaurant's wice tapas selection and can be enjoyed year round. A serving can be shared by two to three people. Call 6873663. The Podium, 8973542, Japiter Street, Makati; or 7574996, Greenbeit branch

ALBA RESTAURANT has added new dishes to its 55 tapas catientes and tapas frias. Recently added to the menu are the meaty Carl lade de Vaca al vino rojo and the seafood special Mejillones al Tigre. New cold tapas ara Tortilla Catalana, Tostadas, Tomate and Mahi Mahi Fresco. Alba Restaurant is a so introducing Pa amb tomaquet Spanish tomato bread, among others Call 8966950-51, 8904399: 9251912, 9287129 4117052 6312216-17.

विकाल अनुस्कृतिक तथा । अनुस्कृतिक विकास ।

Will deliver esserts **GATEAU Chocolate** Lollipop, Petit Mont Bianc and Passion Fruit and Banana Sherbet





CREME Bruiée infused with Japanese green tea, chocolate ice cream with warm chocolate fudge drizzle and Tiramisu

ET US REPHRASE THAT WITH "all desserts," which was what Diamond Hotel offered recently when it sold tickets to three seatings of Dessert Couture: The Ultimate Cake & Dessert Gallery at The Loft of Manansala in Rock-

The sweetest sit-down dining ever held so far this year launched Diamond's entry into dessert catering service

Starting Sept. 15, the Diamond Hotel Dessert Station will be available for setting up in your home or any party venue for buffet or a la carte selections of sweet treats (minimum order of P1,200, please)

Just call 5283000 and the hotel catering staff will show up at your door with a dessert service that stars the latest concoctions of award-winning pastry chef Pang Kok Keong.



CHUCK that carton of easy-bake cheesecake, pick up the phone and sit pretty. Starting Sept. 15, Diamond Hotel will deliver desserts to your door.



SINGAPOREAN pastry chef Pang Kok Keong introduces his

TIRAMISU

concoctions

Cecile Ang, the hotel's young and restless president, has tapped the equally young Singaporean dessert wizard to update Diamond's dessert selections. Dessert Couture proved the perfect op-

portunity for introducing his concocnons and confections to Filipinos.

The full-course dessert dining, which benefited Pathways for Higher Education, presented a collection of cakes, pastries and other temptations that were as visually stunning as they were rich in flavor

Guests could not help but gush over each course which was complemented with item champagne and relaxing mu-

They started with Green Lime Eclair, Walnut Cheesecake and Baked Pear Tart: They were followed by Gateau Chocolate Lollipops, Petit Mont Blanc and Passion Fruit and Banana Sherbet.

The third course featured Le Royale, a dark chocoiate MONT Blanc mousse with almond meringue and hazel- (tel nut crisps, followed by Valrhona Dark tel.com)

Chocolate Lollipop and Pralme Profiterolle Classic chocolate ice cream came up

next, this time made more exquisite by warm chocolate fudge drizzle and almond crumble. Also served were

Grème Bruiee infused with Japanese green tea and Tiramisu

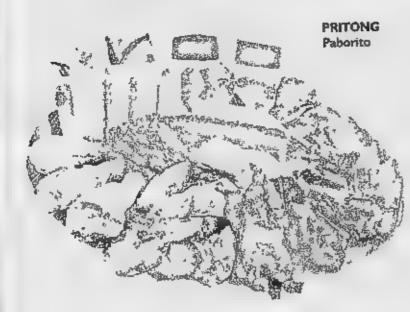
Diamond's signature mac aron collection featuring Rose, Salty Caramel, Pista chio, Hazelnut, Praime, Lemon and Chocolate fla vors, capped the very exclusive afternoon tea-

Diamond Hoter is at Roxas Boulevard cor. Dr. J Quintos Street, Manila www.diamondho-



DIAMOND transported its dessert crew to the Manansala at Rockwell Center for the hautecouture dessert event.

BIBINGKA with salted egg and quesong puti



Simply delicious homecooking

who popularized it in San Fernando, Pampanga)

For bed-weather days, try soup dishes "Mapaling Sabo," Sinigang na Babi (P190), Sinigang na Ulo ng Salmon sa Miso (P170), Sinigang na Sugpo sa Camias (P265) together with Mangan's

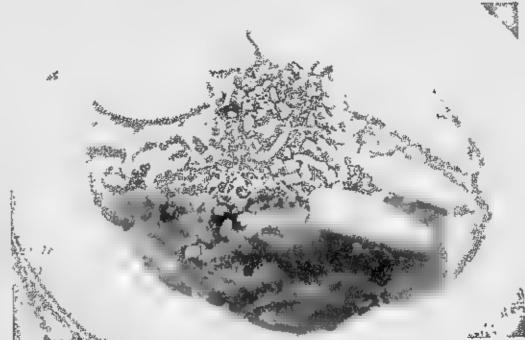
house specialties. Pritong Paborito is a delightful concoction of Pritong Manok, Lumpiang Bangus, Lechon Kawali, Garlic Pugo, Pritong Tilapia, Pritong Biya and a variety of saw-

sawan (sauces) Inihaw Pyesta, Mangan's bestseller, is sure to satisfy with its Inihaw na Liempo, Chicken BBQ, Alabos na Hipon, Imhaw na Bangus, Inihaw na Talong with Burong Hipon (a must to all Kapampangan steamed vegetables), Inshaw na Tahong, Dahon ng Mustasa (Mustasa leaves), and their complement sawsawan.

After a sansfying meal, what better way to slow down but by ordering Napapanahong Prutas—a variety of fruits in season served on a platter.

Mangan's source of pride is the culinary expertise of its chef. With Maritel Nievera-Shani at the helm, food lovers are assured that only the best Kapampangan dishes are served in all branches.

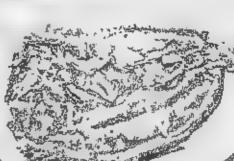
Mangan will open a branch soon at SM Mall of Asia, Call Mangan Robinsons



SEAFOOD Pancit Luglug

DAING na Bangus

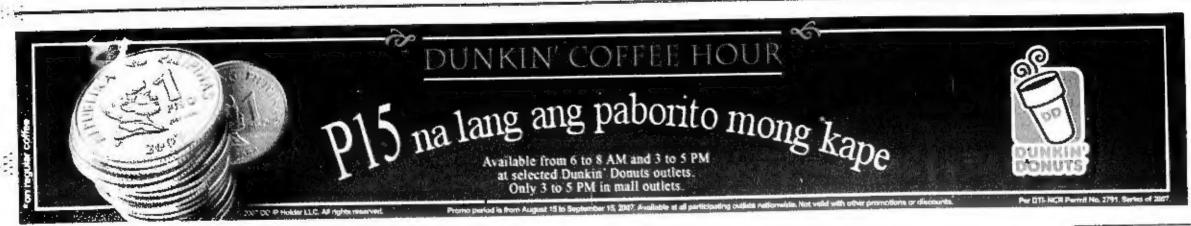
Place Manila (4004784, 4006293), Glorietta 1 (8123843, 8939798), Robinsons Galleria (6361120, 6874459), SM City North Edsa (9286308, 9286659), SM City Pampanga (045-9639294 to 95) and Tri-Noma (9167790, 9166395).



Editor Emmie G. Velarde

sms teadback; inquirer ent name/aga/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 263 (Smart) or email us at entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment



Up Dharma, ı

THE BUZZ ON UP DHARMA DOWN as one of the most interesting bands in the city has caught global attention.

A recent story on the Time Magazine-CNN website, titled "The Way of Dharma," noted that the group-vocalist and keyboard player Armi Millare, 23; guitarist Carlos Tañada, 25; bassist Paul Yap, 25; and drummer Ean Mayor, 23-stands out from among local bands and deserves to be heard around the world.

The story read in part: "Head out most nights in Metro Manila, and you'll be spoiled for original live sound, be it R&B, indie pop, electro-fusion or punk. In a scene this vibrant, it's hard for any act to rise above the clamor. But Up Dharma Down might just be doing so. Beloved of air-punching fans and chin-stroking critics alike. this genre-defying quartet was pegged by BBC radio DJ Mark Coles last year as the Manila band most likely to cross over to the lucrative Anglophone market of North America, Its internationally viable sound shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone who knows the environment it sprang from.

Millare and the band's manager/record label boss, Toti Dalmacion, sounded nonchalam when asked how UDD developed its music.

"The Philippines is used to following



global music trends," Dalmacion said, "RP UP DHARMA bands sprout our of all [kinds of] genres,"

Millare explained: "We can balance and combine various influences. We'd get bored if we got stuck within a certain style."

DOWN: "Genrédefying."

No diva in her blog site

CHECKING OUT MY FRIENDS' connivance. They're out to get multiply.com sites is the highlight me. My brain is the only one of my mornings. Before getting lost in the daily shuffle (or shuffling with the lost?), it feels good to touch base with friends and see what they're up to.

I particularly enjoy going through the site of Zsazsa Padilla, which she calls "In This Cor-

ner." There she sheds her diva image and even gamely posts her bagong gising pix. Zsa allowed me to share with you her latest blog entry (Sept. 3): "Give in, hold back." I'm sure a lot of women can relate to it as they also deal with the diet tug of war.

Confused

"I am confused. My brain, mouth and stomach are in making sense but I get mixed signals. It keeps saying, 'Give in... eat! You are PMSing and you have to satisfy your needs.'

"When I look in the mirror and see my image and how my hips have grown, it then says, 'Hold back... have some sense,

Dolly Anne Carvajal

DOLLY

WOOD

NO DIVA/ E2



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grant students this one of a kind Grand Diploma and allow them to be twice as good as avaryone with only one specially, certainly giving them the edge egainst the compelition. Program begins on September 25, 2007

7 mentile of intense training and echoding allows septing chefs to work se professionals do in kilahana all sigund the world. Program begins September 25, and November 6, 2007.

Oploma in Prolessional Baking & Pastry Aria 5 months of miense training and schooling allows separing peatry choic to perform as professionals do in

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FEEDBACK

Gossip shows offend

From: Pepe Sanchez (jos_357@yahoo.com), address withheld upon request:

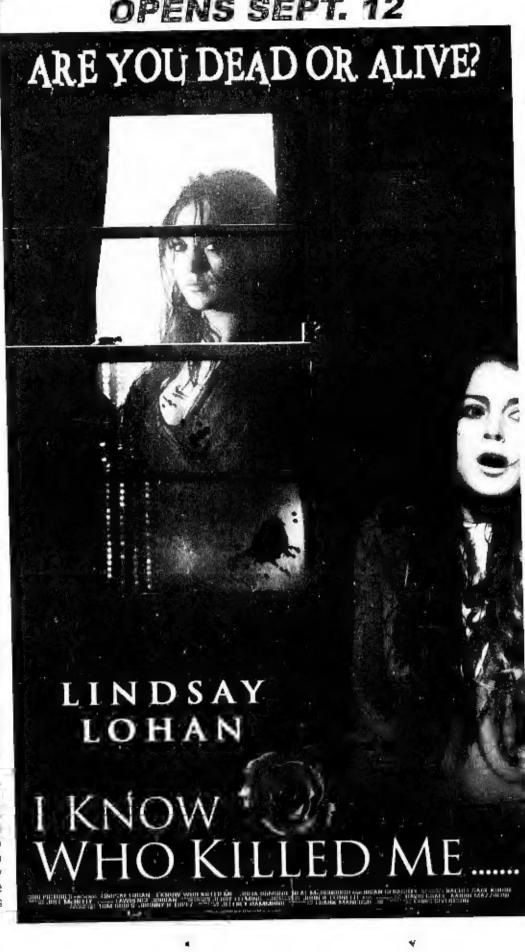
May we request the two big TV stations, ABS-CBN and GMA 7, to please move their gossip shows to time slots that don't disturb people taking siesta during the week-

How about 10 a.m. or 5 p.m.?

Granted, these shows are big business, and their high ratings probably justify the blatant desecration of God's day for the sole purpose of feeing audiences with all that show biz trash. Please, can you just move these sinful programs so that people like us who need the weekend to recharge can get respite from our neighbors' offensively loud TV sets?

And since when, may we ask, has been gossiping stricken off the list of sins?

May we also request the MTRCB and the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines to please, please, step into this runaway frenzy and save the populace before it's tou late?



(Passy) bi 633.3298 / 833.3274

SKINWALKERS

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Center Mail Cinema

Center Mall, Nagsayany Avenue Baguio Chyl Ini (074)- (444)240

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MY KUYAS WEDDING SINKING JAPAN THREE

Centre Plaza Cinema n. Batam) (el (047) 237,7007

RUSH HOUR - 3

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NANCY DREW

1408 / THE INVATION

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Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Calambi) tel (049) 545,7383

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(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

Cinema 2000 Metrotown (Tulus) tel (045) 982-1729 RUSH HOUR - 3 A LOVE STORY

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

Cinema 2008 Waltermart

(Gapan) (et. (044) 4867738

MY KUYAS WEDDING

Llanas Cinema

(Passig) tel 640.4748

ALOVE STORY

Lianas Cinema

(Nahang) tel 050.1274

MASARAP NA PUGAD

Llanas MovieCity

SINKING JAPAH

RUSH HOUR - 3

Fiesta World Mall

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(Calumba) 1et (049) 545.720

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STHRING JAPAN

RUSH HOUR - 3

(Mined) 14 (044) 785.3326

1488 RBSH HOUR - 3 MY KUYAS WEDDING

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BUSH HOUR - 3

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EVAN ALMIGHTY

FVAN ALMIGHTY

LICENSE TO WED

MY KUYAS WEDDING RUSH HOUR - 3

MY KUYAS WEDDING

RUSH HOUR - 3

PEANET TERROR

DISTURBIA

NANCY DREW

DISTRUBBA HARCY DREW

DAY WATCH PREMIERE

EVAN ALMIGHTY HAIRSPRAY

Cinema 2000 Waltemert Makati Waltement Center, China Roces Are. con. Antonie Arnale Pio del Pilar, Nakati City Tel 816,4214 / \$16,4216 THE INVASION

DISTURBU HANCY DREW SKINWALKERS

stermall

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THEATRES

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1 四篇 SKINWALKERS 2 600% DAY WATCH 4 mm cas THE INVASION 5 mm (22.00) NAMEY DREW

\$ consens **EVAN ALMIDHTY** 7 intracen CHSTURBIA 小服 MY KUYAB WEDDING

A LOVE STORY 9代的 CHOPSUEY High H

Wave han Michael cor. Alexor GE Fernanda Stre Na. Man, Martine City tel. 9341927

1 pum CHOPSUEY DISTURBIA 2 KOLEN HANCY DREW 3 pours PLEASE CALL (onen

SUPER CINERAMA ketam Cinerama Complex Recto DOWNELDSED FOR REMOVATION

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Manulatorong (e) 533,3851 / 533,3856 **HUSH HOUR - 3 EVAN ALMIGHTY** A LOVE STORY

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PLEASE CALL PLEASE CALL DIH'T LOOK BACK MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

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No diva in her blog site

and downright mean. Seriously now, I have a photo shoot in two

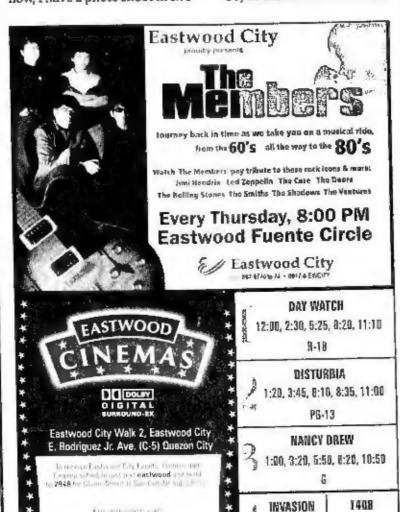
woman, and go on a diet... you weeks and I have to be profes- can envision a slimmer but nas-***!' It can get pretty abusive sional about this whole thing. Brain says... diet wins!

"So, in the next two weeks, I

1:00, 5:45, 10:40

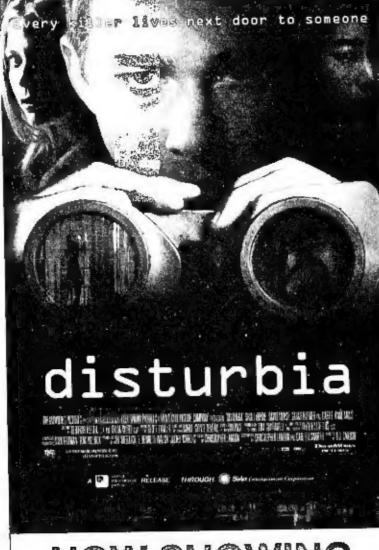
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GUARANTEED SEATS

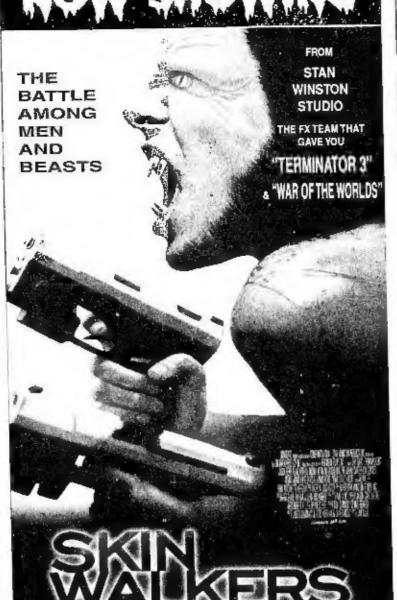


NOW SHOWING

MTRCB PG-13

Children below 18 yrs, old will only be allowed it accompanied by a parent or adult

F-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP



tier me. Being deprived of food is no fun. But we do it because it's part of the job. So many haters out there. And sadly enough, they always target the physical. They make nasty comments like she's too fat, too thin,

goes on and on. "The upside? Good uplifting comments. I guess you all know by now that most artists suffer from low-self esteem. The culprit? Being a people-pleaser. Applause and approval from fans sustain us. Need I say more?"

too ugly, trying too hard... it just

Merry Marian

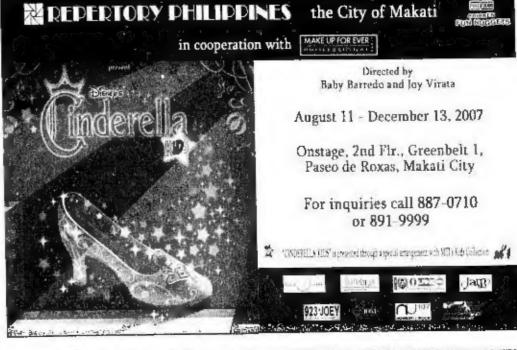
I teased Marian Rivera: "Now that you've made it big as Marimar, I'm sure Mark Herras regrets letting you slip away?" Their romance got thwarted

because Marian found out that Mark was still in love with Jennylyn Mercado at that time. She flipped her hair and pouted. "Ewon ko kay Mark (laughter)!" I could sense some sarcasm in

her tone. But all that is behind her now. If Mark has any plans of trying to win Marian back, he'd have to queue up and wait for her cue.



ENTERT









FALL OUT BOY CONCERT

September 20 & 21, 8pm

UAAP BASKETBALL GAMES

Sep 8 Salurday 2pm UE vs UP 4pm NU vs FEU

Sep 9 Sunday 2pm UST vs Adu 4pm ADMU vs DLSU



RIAN RIVERA

ZSAZSA PADILLA

SKIN WALKERS

GREENHILLS CINEMAS

HEATREMAL

HOW

DISTURBIA

ert 5 12 19 28 ,200

No stopping Angel

Angel Locsin left for Hong Kong Tuesday to shoot another TV ad there. She just finished her acting workshop

DAY WATCH

and is raring to start her project with Piolo Pascual. No amount of cloudy intrigueladen days can ever stop Angel's flying higher and higher.

THE INVASION DE DOLLY

NANCY DREW

10:00 PI

Guess list

· Guess who this TV host is. She signed up as image model for the rival company of the establishment she used to endorse even if her contract hadn't lapsed. There were some legal impediments but the owner of the company just let her go. Endorsers like her are more incredible than credible because her reason for suddenly shifting from one company to another is so preposterous

· Guess who this actor is. During a night out with a gay actor, their friends dared them to kiss and they gamely did. The actor's gender has always been in ques-

tion. After that night, all doubts were confirmed. Is his closet queen phase finally

New newscast

UNTV 37's "Ito Ang Balita" (M-F, 6-7 p.m.) is committed to delivering impartial reporting of the day's events. It is anchored by two respected broadcasters in the industry-Jay Sonza and Candice Giron. Segments include Business Sense, Sports Discipline and Police Blotter. Is Jay out to dislodge the newscast of his ex, Mel Tiangco ("24

told me the story behind the story of his split-up with Tita Mel. Suffice it to say that he's too much of a gentleman; that's why he just let Tita Mel do the talking when their breakup was hot news. It's up to the viewers to read between the (head) lines.

Personal

Kudos to my dear "V. Sister" la@yahoo.com.

I remember when Tito Jay Ces Drilon for the well-deserved Emmy nomination of "Bandila," A first for the country! That makes the Philippine bandila wave so proudly.

Belated birthday greetings to my friends from Bohol-Libby Sumampong, Kim Ellison Dungog and Osting

E-mail wateringholeshangri-

NANCY DREW

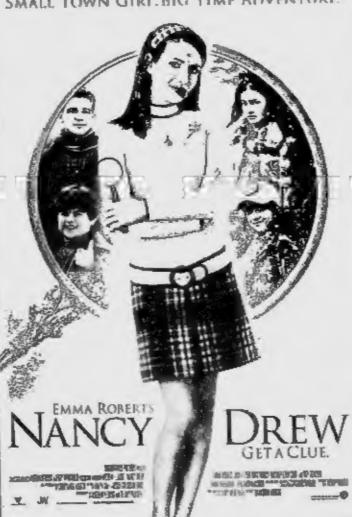
MIRCE GP 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

NG CINEPLE

NANCY DREW MYRCB, GP 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 DISTURBIA

AGES ADMITTED

SMALL TOWN GIRL BIG TIME ADVENTURE



DAY WATCH MTRCB. R-13 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00 MTRC8 PG-13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00

EVAN ALMIGHTY (GP) 1:20, 3:30 / HAIRSPRAY (GP) 5:00, 8:30 PREMIERE THEATRE

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DOLBY

NANCY DREW

G.

1:30,3:40,5:50,

8:00,10:10

PG13 1:40,3:50,6:00 **EVAN ALMIGHTY** G

8:10,10:20

THE INVASION

PG13

1:00,3:15,5:30,

7:45,10:00

Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc. 324 Telfioma - 901 3000

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DAY WATCH R13

12:00,2:30,5:10, 7:50.10:30

SKIN WALKERS R18 1:40,3:50,6:00,

8:10,10:20

Marketi Marketi - 886 7619

Philippine Daily Inquirer's Job Fair

September 3 to 6, 2007 at the Activity Center

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2 2 DISTURBIA NANCY DREW GUARANTEO SEATS **GREENBELT 3 EVAN ALMIGHTY** DAYWATCH 3 4 HAIRSPRAY GUARANTEED SEA **NANCY DREW** DISTURBIA ALABANG

TOWN 5 SKINWALKERS THE INVASION DAYWATCH CENTER 3 THE INVASION 2 PLANET TERROR 1 PAN'S LABYRINTH AYALA CENTER RISE 2 SKINWALKERS CHOPSUEY MARKETI 5 MARKETI DAYWATCH DISTURBIA NANCY DREW 3 TRINOMA

SKINWALKERS

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DAYWATCH

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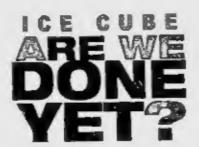
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NANCY DREW

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Lactum Mall Show September 8 & 9, 2007 at the Activity Center

Onstage (

Repertory Philippines presents Disney's CINDERELLA Kids at REP's Globe Theater - Opens August 11, 2007 For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710

Ayala museum

Antiqueños: Homage to my Kasimanwas August 28 to September 10, 2007 For more info, pls. call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 14 or email museum_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org

Tri Noma

Samsung Exhibit An exhibit of the latest Samsung mobile phones September 14 to 18; 10am to 9 pm; Starbucks / Food Choices Level 2

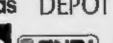






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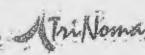
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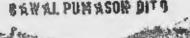




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3 indieSine:TRIBU	8 1408				
4 DAYWATCH	9 A LOVE STORY				
5 SKINWALKERS	10 CHOPSEUY				
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1 1408	1 RISE
2 CASA	2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 THREE	3 A LOVE STORY
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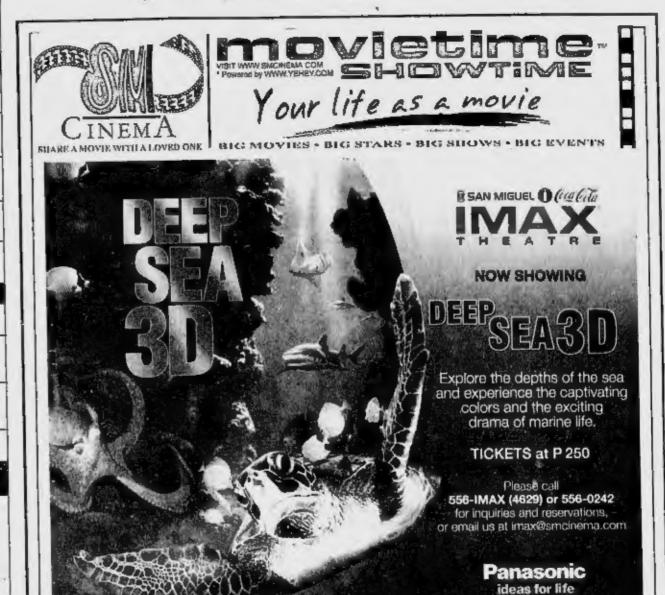
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HILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

DID You KNOW... 'Foster Child' cinema run

BRILLANTE MENDOZA'S 'FOSTER CHILD," WHICH PREMIERED AT THE LAST CANNES INternational Pilm Festival, opens in local cinemas on Sept. 12. Cast as parent-for-hire is Cherry Pie Picache, who was named Best Actress at the 9th Osian's Cinefan International Festival in India for said role. Mendoza says he feels a personal affinity with the movie, "being an adoptive father myself to a little girl who (has) brought sunshine to my somewhat dreary existence."



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NANCY DREW

806-6886 SM SOUTHMALL LOISTURBIA INANCY DREW 1408 **EDAY WATCH** IA LOVE STORY 6MY KUYA'S WEDDING JEVAN ALMIGHTY

THURSDAY,

SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

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PEVAN ALMIGHTY SM CITY DASMARINAS (040)4323381-64 IMY KUYA'S WEDDING MINVASION BLADES OF GLORY \$140B

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EVAN ALMIGHTY

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(049)5349811 EM CITY STA. ROSA LA LOVE STORY £1408 INVASION

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